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OCTOBER 4 - 10, 2012

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GRANITE VIEWS PATRICK DUFFY

Need to solve overcrowding



We are not about to let the fact that the Red Sox are missing the playoffs for the third year in a row, nor the disappointing losses of the Patriots, dampen our enthusiasm for living in New Hampshire during this invigorating time of year. And although the constant barrage of media ads for the Presidential, Congressional and statewide campaigns is distracting and somewhat disruptive, at least it is all contributing to our local economy.

However, what cannot be overlooked is what is occurring in Manchester, specifically the overcrowding in the schools, which resulted from the layoffs of teachers earlier in the year. Can our elected officials pretend that this issue will just go away?

The communities that send their children to Manchester schools have alerted the school district that they have grounds for severing their contracts and pulling the students out of Manchester schools.

Stop to think about the impact that this would have. Manchester schools rely on the funding from those communities to provide the staff and facilities to meet state education standards. The long-term ramifications are immense, since those communities may well find an alternative to educating their students that will not revert to the services of the Manchester School District.

Who is to blame? The mayor is quick to point out that the teachers' union has not accepted some of the give-backs that other bargaining units in the city have made in order to avoid layoffs. The superintendent of schools has been under the gun for not being proactive in anticipating the need to staff the schools while operating under severe budget constraints, and all the while the school board stands by shaking its finger at the school administration.

Citizens for Manchester Schools, composed of parents and other concerned residents, recently held a rally to express that budget shortfalls were resulting in failing schools and that city government needs to be put on notice.

So where does the buck stop? Not only parents of school children, but all residents need to reassess priorities, since the downhill spiral of quality education in Manchester will have serious long-term effects on our city.

The elephant in the room is the tax cap. It appears the law of unintended consequences has kicked in. We as a city need to decide if that is how we wish to govern, or if we need to take stock of our priorities and plan accordingly. Let's get our heads together to solve this problem.

Patrick Duffy served as commissioner of the Department of Administrative Services for the State of New Hampshire from 1993 to 1996.

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49 Hollis St., Manchester, N.H. 03101
P 603-625-1855 F 603-625-2422
www.hippopress.com
e-mail: news@hippopress.com

EDITORIAL

Executive Editor

Amy Diaz, adiaz@hippopress.com, ext. 29

Contributing Editor

Lisa Parsons, lparsons@hippopress.com,
ext. 13

Copy Editor

Deidre Ashe

Listings

Arts listings: arts@hippopress.com
Inside/Outside listings: listings@hippopress.com
Food & Drink listings: food@hippopress.com
Music listings: music@hippopress.com

Staff Writers

Cory Francer:

cfrancer@hippopress.com, ext. 10

Jeff Mucciarone:

jnmucciarone@hippopress.com, ext. 36

Samantha Pearson:

spearson@hippopress.com, ext. 17

Kelly Sennott:

ksennott@hippopress.com, ext. 12

Luke Steere:

lsteere@hippopress.com, ext. 30

Contributors John Andrews, Sid Ceaser, Allison Willson Dudas, Jennifer Graham, Henry Homeyer, Dave Long, Lauren Mifsud, Stefanie Phillips, Eric W. Saeger, Sarah Shemkus, Rebecca Sherman, Gil Talbot, Michael Witthaus. To reach the newsroom call 625-1855, ext. 29.

BUSINESS

Publisher

Jody Reese, Ext. 21

Associate Publisher

Dan Szczesny, Ext. 13

Associate Publisher

Jeff Rapsis, Ext. 23

Production Manager

Glenn Given, Ext. 15, production@hippopress.com

Production

Dave Coscia, Ashley McCarty, Beth Page

Circulation Manager

Doug Ladd, Ext. 35

Advertising Manager

Charlene Cesarini, Ext. 26

Account Executives

Sara Coop, scoop@hippopress.com

Doreen Astbury, Ext. 11

Alyse Savage, 603-493-2026

Katharine Stickney, Ext. 44

Roxanne Macaig, Ext. 27

Kristin Crawford, support staff, Ext. 25

Reception & Bookkeeping

Gloria Zogopoulos

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How clean is our air?

The Moose Hill School in Londonderry is now home to the state Department of Environmental Services' flagship air pollution monitoring station. It's also the state's first air pollution monitoring station to incorporate solar energy to power monitoring equipment, according to DES. DES staff worked with Environmental Protection Agency staff to select the site for its proximity to the "highly populated, southeastern suburbs" of New Hampshire, according to a DES press release. The site lies in the air pollution transport corridor that crosses the southern portion of the state. The site will be used to monitor small particle pollution, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and carbon monoxide.



New pollution monitoring station.

high-profile political visits. Former President Bill Clinton was slated to visit the state in a campaign visit on behalf of President Barack Obama on Wednesday, Oct. 3. Mitt Romney's vice presidential pick, Rep. Paul Ryan, attended a rally at Pinkerton Academy in Derry on Saturday, Sept. 29. Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker was the keynote speaker at the Republican State Convention on Saturday, Sept. 29, also at Pinkerton Academy.

• State candidates debate:

Ovide Lamontagne and Maggie Hassan faced off last week in a WMUR debate. On Monday, Oct. 8, at 8 p.m., the two gubernatorial candidates will face off once again in a WBIN-TV debate sponsored by AARP-New Hampshire. Charlie Sherman will serve as moderator, and the pair will take questions from journalists. WBIN will host a debate between Rep. Frank Guinta and former Rep. Carol Shea-Porter, who are vying for the state's 1st Congressional District seat, on Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 8 p.m. The following day, Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2nd District candidates Rep. Charlie Bass and Annie Kuster will face off on WBIN at 8 p.m.

• **News anchor leaves TV:** Tifany Eddy, a news anchor and reporter with WMUR in Manchester for the past 14 years, will make her final newscast on Friday, Oct. 12. Eddy is leaving WMUR to run her own communications consulting firm, Focus First Communications, according to WMUR. Viewers would recognize Eddy as a host of *New Hampshire Chronicle*.

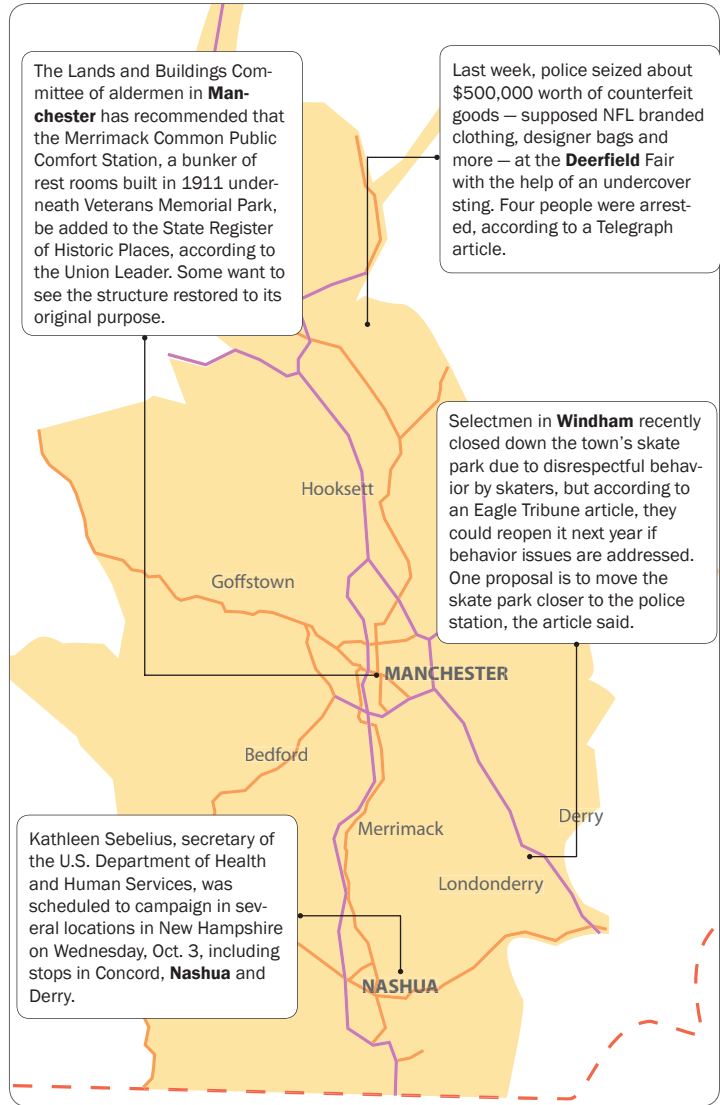
• **Hospital scanning accredited:** St. Joseph Hospital in Nashua knows CT scans, according to the American College of Radiology, which just handed out a three-year re-accreditation to the hospital for computed tomography. ACR's seal of approval represents the highest level of image quality and

patient safety in CT scans, which are used to help physicians diagnose and tailor treatments for various conditions, according to a hospital press release.

• **Montero president of national group:** Dr. Jose Montero, the state public health director, is now the president of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials. Montero has been with the state Department of Health and Human Services since 1999 and he has been public health director since 2008. The association is a nonprofit organization representing public health agencies throughout the U.S.

• **O'Brien talks about role:** House Speaker William O'Brien, R-Mont Vernon, joined Rep. Ked Gidge, D-Nashua, and Dave Robbins, R-Nashua, for a discussion of O'Brien's tenure as speaker and plans for the next session. The discussion is airing on Access Nashua, Channel 96 (Channel 85.1 digital) throughout this week, including Thursday, Oct. 4, at 3 p.m., Friday, Oct. 5, at noon, Saturday, Oct. 6, at 6 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 7, at 10 a.m. The three lawmakers touched on right-to-work legislation, marriage freedom, education funding and taxes. Visitaccessnashua.org.

• **SEA endorses Hassan:** Gubernatorial candidate Maggie Hassan picked up the endorsement of the State Employees' Association of New Hampshire. "Maggie Hassan is focused on raising wages and reducing poverty by improving NH's future — achieving a better educated, better trained NH workforce and an updated and repaired infrastructure," said John Hancock, SEA member activist. Hassan is vying for the corner office against Republican Ovide Lamontagne.



• **HUD grant to help residents get services:** The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded New Hampshire a \$548,226 grant to help public and assisted housing residents connect with local services to obtain education and training to find jobs. The funding will let state organizations hire or retain nine service coordinators, according to a HUD press release.

• **See a wolf:** While wildlife experts say wolves may have returned or passed through New Hampshire in recent years, Squam

Lakes Natural Science Center in Holderness is holding a special program for two shows on Saturday, Oct. 13, at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. The "Mission: Wolf" program began in 1988 and connects people with nature, while caring for 38 wolves and wolf-dog crosses, all born in captivity, on a 200-acre property in Colorado. Mission: Wolf staff will visit the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center to give people a chance to learn about wolves though an up-close experience with a wolf. The program costs \$12. Call 968-7194.

BEST WEEK



RAIL RIDERS

Both gubernatorial candidates, Maggie Hassan and Ovide Lamontagne, spoke in favor of exploring the possibility of expanding rail service in New Hampshire during a debate. Lamontagne said he'd be interested in seeing if rail could be extended to Nashua, and Hassan wanted to see if extending it to Manchester could work.

WORST WEEK



CRUSADERS FOOTBALL TEAM

A student allegedly transferred from Manchester Central High School to Memorial High School at least in part so he could obtain additional playing time in football, according to a Union Leader article. The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletics Association does not allow transfers for athletic reasons, and according to the article, Memorial's Crusaders could have to forfeit the games they have played this year, and the school could face more serious penalties. The NHIAA is investigating.

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Dr. Lisbeth Murphy is a graduate of Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) and the University of Rochester School of Medicine. She remained in Rochester and completed her residency in obstetrics and gynecology at The University of Rochester Strong Memorial Hospital.

Dr. Murphy is married and she and her husband recently became the proud parents of a baby girl. Dr. Murphy's areas of clinical interests include family planning, contraception, infertility and advanced laparoscopic surgery. Her personal interests include spending time with her family, skiing and rugby.

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NEWS & NOTES

Will ID law slow the polls?

Get in line on Election Day

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

When you go to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 6, have your ID ready.

On the heels of the passage of a voter ID law in New Hampshire, voters will be asked to show photo identification. If you don't have photo ID or choose not to show it, you can still vote or register to vote, but you'll be asked to sign a "challenged voter affidavit" affirming that you are who you say you are.

After the election, people who signed affidavits will receive a letter from the Secretary of State requesting verification. According to the Secretary of State website, if a response isn't received within 90 days, the Attorney General will conduct an investigation to determine whether voting fraud occurred. Wrongful voting is punishable by a fine of as much as \$5,000.

The voter ID issue has been controversial. Those in support of the law say photo IDs should be required for voting just as for activities such as purchasing alcohol or cashing a check. Opponents point to the roughly 50,000 people in the state who lack photo identification. They say the law fixes the nonexistent problem of voter fraud in New Hampshire.

For 2012, the law in no way limits who can vote on Nov. 6. As of Sept. 1, 2013, people will be required to present photo identification to vote — assuming there are no changes to the law in the meantime, and there could be legal issues.

"There is a lot of information out there now suggesting the requirements are kicking in this election and that's just not so," said John Greabe, a University of New Hampshire School of Law professor. "People can still register to vote," Greabe said. "There's still same-day registration."

Acceptable identification includes a driver's license, even if it's expired, an ID card from the Division of Motor Vehicles, U.S. Armed Services ID, U.S. Passport, even if expired, a valid photo ID card issued by federal, state, county or municipal government, a valid student ID, or any type of ID deemed legitimate by the supervisors of the voter checklist, the moderator or the clerk.

A voter who does not have an approved photo ID may obtain a free photo ID for voting purposes only by presenting a voucher from his or her town/city clerk or the Secretary of State to any New Hampshire DMV office that issues identification, according to the Secretary of State. Visit sos.nh.gov.

"The law doesn't affect who is entitled to vote," Greabe said. "It doesn't restrict the pool of people who are qualified to vote."

However, the law will add administrative

hurdles for poll workers and clerks.

"It's going to change how we process voters," said Paul Bergeron, Nashua city clerk. "It has to. There is no way to avoid that."

During the primary election last month, 6.2 percent of voters did not show an ID in Nashua. "I expect that will be much higher for the November election," Bergeron said.

Many residents in southern New Hampshire get news from Boston media, which hasn't covered the state's new voter ID law. Bergeron figured the majority of people who voted in the primary were in tune with election laws and the voter ID law in particular. Bergeron said he thought more general-election voters would be uninformed about the voter ID law, leading to more people voting without IDs.

During a regular statewide election, Nashua election officials typically process about 24,000 voters. Bergeron said in a presidential election the number of voters swells to 42,000 people. He's predicting 10 percent of voters on Nov. 6 will not show IDs in Nashua. That's nearly 4,000 voters. It takes three minutes to explain the law and for people to fill out the application. Multiply that by 4,000 people and it's about 200 extra hours. Those are spread out over the nine wards, but it's still a significant amount of time, Bergeron said.

"We'd just like to encourage people, even those who are not in support of the voter ID legislation, to be prepared to show their photo ID at the polls on election day," Bergeron said. "During the primary, there were a number of people who were not in support of the law, and they refused to show their ID. If they do that in November, and I realize they're taking a position on legislation they don't support, but it's going to slow the process down for everyone behind them, and long and slow lines discourage people from voting...."

"I would have preferred to see this rolled out in 2014 during a smaller election," Bergeron said. "There really hasn't been a good, lengthy voter education process.... If we had pushed this off a year, the state would have had plenty of time to educate voters, through public service announcements, radio, cable TV. None of that is being done."

After the election, community officials are supposed to notify the state about who voted without an ID. Bergeron was hoping the state would revise the voter history software, which would allow election workers to check a box for people who voted without an ID. Otherwise, clerks will probably be mailing the affidavits, Bergeron said.



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Who will win the middle?

Hassan and Lamontagne in a dead heat

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

As much as Maggie Hassan is trying to fit the centrist, fiscally responsible Democratic mold, Ovide Lamontagne is trying to paint her as a tax-and-spend liberal. Conversely, as much as Lamontagne is pushing his fiscal agenda, Hassan is attempting to brand him as an extremist, Tea Party conservative in the mold of House Speaker William O'Brien.

Lamontagne's campaign has introduced a series of "Taxes of the Day," in attempts to tie Hassan's legislative record as a state senator to higher taxes and more government spending. The campaign recently tied Hassan to the controversial LLC tax that was introduced a couple years ago and then promptly eliminated — Hassan voted for the tax.

Hassan has repeatedly suggested Lamontagne would simply be an extension of a Tea Party legislature. Recently, her campaign has argued Lamontagne would say no to federal education funding while "dismantling" Medicare. Lamontagne has made an issue of the federal health care reform act and has offered his own plan for dealing with rising health care costs. He criticizes Hassan for what he says are policies she supported that have led to higher costs.

Despite the back and forth branding efforts, this race has a decidedly different tone than 2010. In 2010, voters were angry and candidates were angry. Both Hassan and Lamontagne, whether through campaign strategy, personality or both, are remaining civil in their disagreements — and they have plenty they disagree about.

At the same time, both candidates are sprinting to the center hoping to pick up as many independent voters as possible. Lamontagne said during the debate he'd check his party label at the door if elected. Hassan is positioning herself in the same political light as Gov. John Lynch, who has been decidedly moderate since taking office four terms ago. In 2010, Republican candidates seemingly sprinted as far right as possible. Two years later, the middle ground is once again everybody's friend.

The race is a statistical dead heat, according to recent polling data. The most recent Rasmussen Reports poll from Tuesday, Sept. 18, has Lamontagne leading 48-44. An ARG poll from the same day has Lamontagne ahead 47-45, with Hassan within the margin of error. A recent Public Policy poll had Hassan with a seven-point advantage, though it is considered a lib-



eral polling operation. Lamontagne certainly has the advantage in the name recognition department, although they both have work to do in that area. It will be interesting to see what happens to Hassan's support as more people become familiar with her.

Pundits are paying close attention to how Republican candidates run in relation to the GOP leadership in the state House of Representatives. Democrats have, at least somewhat successfully, tried to make extremism and House leadership go hand-in-hand. Lamontagne certainly stands on conservative principles, but he has also tried to come across as reasonable, and for lack of a better word, likeable.

For Hassan it might not be as much about making Lamontagne seem like the second coming of O'Brien, though that wouldn't hurt her chances; it seems to be more about her positioning herself as a check against that legislature. Even if people don't buy Lamontagne as O'Brien's clone, he could have difficulty convincing voters he'd be a check against the legislature.

Each candidate's fate could be heavily tied to the presidential outcome in New Hampshire, which is very much in play. We'll pay attention to how polling data shifts relative to presidential polling data in New Hampshire.

Kuster grabs camera

Annie Kuster, who is running for the state's 2nd District congressional seat against Rep. Charlie Bass, grabbed the camera of a Bass campaign staffer after he followed her and repeatedly called her name.

Kuster claimed the staffer was harassing her, and she said, on a video published at www.nhjournal.com, that she'd call Bass to see about returning the camera. Reports indicated one of Kuster's staff members gave the camera back just after the incident.

It's difficult to know whether the incident impacts Kuster at all. She might come off as sympathetic, since she is walking away talking to someone while the cameraman follows her doggedly. On the other hand, a voice that seems to be Kuster's is also heard uttering "F-him," though she does not actually say the word.

At the very least, it would seem to inject some life into an up-for-grabs race.

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NEWS & NOTES Q&A

True crime writers

Cold cases make hot books

Kevin Flynn and Rebecca Lavoie have written two true crime novels based in New Hampshire, *Our Little Secret* and *Legally Dead*. Flynn and Lavoie will present, along with the state's Cold Case Unit's Bob Freitas, at the Concord Public Library on Monday, Oct. 15, at 7 p.m., as part of the Concord Reads initiative.

Q: *Writing about New Hampshire murders, how did you get into that?*

Kevin Flynn: We started writing about true crime back in 2008. It's not that we particularly target cold cases, but the nature of true crime is that ... publishers don't want to sign on for any stories that are not adjudicated, the exceptions being major celebrity cases.

Rebecca Lavoie: ... we are extremely fortunate to live in a state where law enforcement, the attorney general, defense attorneys, they're all very accessible.

Your intention is to stick with [New Hampshire stories] for now?

RL: I would say for now, yeah. We both still have day jobs. [Lavoie is the producer of NHPR's *Word of Mouth*, and Flynn is communications director for the Community Development Finance Authority.]

we ever have moments where we solve the case ourselves.... It would be inaccurate to say that has never happened. We can turn the page and see things in a fresh way.



Courtesy photo.

[Lavoie touched on the state's prosecution unit.]

RL: You don't want to get arrested for murder in New Hampshire, because that means they have enough to convict you. ... It's so much harder than it appears on TV.

What were you thinking when the state's Cold Cast Unit was created?

KF: Definitely felt like it was a necessary thing that the state needed. When we wrote the book *Our Little Secret*, that was the first cold case that was solved in the state in I think 50 years, the Danny Paquette case. ... It's just another great source of material for us.

RL: Another thing that interested me was the cast of characters who populated the unit. You have Will Delker, a former prosecutor. And they had this volunteer ... a little old lady, a retired teacher combing through the files. What a ... creative approach to putting fresh eyes on a case.

Have you had any interaction with [the unit]?

KF: We haven't yet. ... We know some of the folks there and ... we're keeping an eye on a couple cases.... We don't publicly identify cases that we're interested in, since it's such a competitive marketplace.

What are you expecting to touch on in the presentation in Concord?

KF: It's kind of open-ended because it's connected to Concord Reads. ...I'm much more interested in what Bob Freitas has to say. ... how they start from scratch, how they determine what information in the files they can build on.

RL: I think people wonder if we ever uncover anything, if we ever come up with evidence that is not publicly out there, if

Do you have a project in the works?

KF: We have a book coming out in March, *Notes on a Killing*, on the case of Edith 'Pen' Myer from Goshen. ... That will be out in March with Berkley Books.

RL: In the meantime we've been involved with a number of [true crime television programs.] It seems like our genre has become the fastest-growing TV genre. We're going to be appearing on shows in the next couple months.

With full-time jobs, how do you find the time?

RL: Our life is a little strange. ...it's not unusual for us to be eating dinner with crime scene photos spread out over the table, talking about that the way other couples talk about who is going to take out the trash.

KF: There is a certain season where we're doing this instead of watching TV at night. Then it drops off and gets kind of quiet and we can go out to dinner.

RL: During which, we still sometimes talk about crime. I always feel bad for the couple next to us. Picking over murders is what we think is interesting. I always wonder what they think about our conversations.

—Jeff Mucciarone

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NEWS & NOTES

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX



Biggest pumpkin ever ... oh, wait.

A pumpkin (pictured) raised by Steve Geddes of Boscawen weighed in at a world-record 1,843.5 pounds at the Deerfield Fair on Thursday, Sept. 27. But then on Friday, Sept. 28, a pumpkin at the Topsfield Fair in Massachusetts weighed in at just over a ton (2,000 pounds).

QOL score: 0 (+1 for a day, and then -1)

Comment: *The Boston Globe reported that the 822-pound pumpkin of Barry LeBlanc of Merrimack made a kind of history in Topsfield by falling out of the forklift straps and breaking open on the ground, "the first [such disaster] anyone could remember at a weigh-off."*

No shelter

There will be no cold-weather emergency family shelter in Concord this winter. The shelter ran on private donations the past four years and is still \$11,000 in debt after last winter, according to an article in the Concord Monitor. The shelter also has no location; the place that the shelter used the past two years, the Anna Philbrook Center on the New Hampshire Hospital Campus, is undergoing renovations and will be used for state offices.

QOL score: -2

Comment: *Last year, the shelter housed 15 families in the Philbrook Center; the \$32,931 raised in donations was not enough to cover the \$41,652 cost of leasing the building and running the shelter, the article said.*

Apple security

With a rise in the number of people stealing apples, Mack's Apples in Londonderry is boosting its security. According to a WMUR story, employees at the orchard have spotted customers purchasing one bag of apples as a ruse, and then filling their vehicles with apples they didn't pay for. Apple thieves beware, as additional employees will be monitoring the, the story said. It's particularly bad news for the orchard as the apple crop this year is a little thin, according to the article.

QOL score: -1

Comment: *QOL loves apple pie as much as the next person, but QOL knows apple pie isn't free.*

QOL score: 79

Net change: -3

QOL this week: 76

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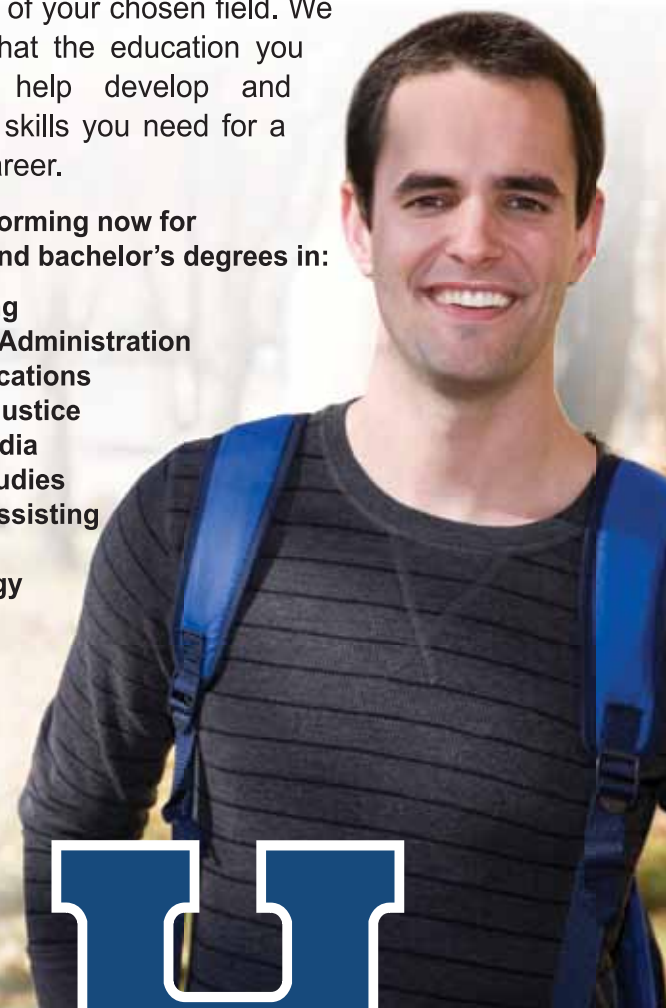
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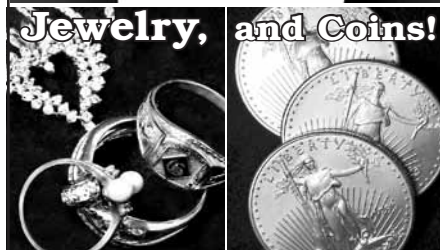


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SPORTS DAVE LONG'S LONGSHOTS



The 100th season at Fenway is one to remember

By the time most of you see this, the most unbelievable baseball season I have ever seen will have come to an end. Not unbelievable in the way the pennant race of 1967 revived local baseball interest as the Sox outlasted the five teams that were in the AL race right up until the final weekend or last year when the Cardinals won it all behind the spectacular postseason pitching of **Chris Carpenter**.

No, it was the incomprehensible disintegration of a team that had the best record in baseball on Aug. 29, 2011, before collapsing in September to miss the playoffs. Who then continued going straight downhill, as a franchise with a payroll north of \$180 million finished with 90 losses for the first time since 1966 in what was supposed to be a joyous year celebrating the 100th anniversary of Fenway Park.

That's saying something for me, who was right there in New York the first season I followed baseball as the Mets set the standard for futility, losing the most games in history. I also saw the Phillies blow a 6.5-game lead with 12 games to play two years later and the Yankees dynasty crumble overnight with a stunning sixth-place finish in 1965. And there's plenty more, but the Sox have all beat, even those Mets, who were so bad they were lovable, while the Sox were as unlikable as they were bad.

There was a Murphy's Law quality to it all, where anything that could go wrong did. But even as injuries mounted in a historic way, it was apparent that whining, spoiled players who didn't care enough about winning and a pitching staff that wasn't as good as advertised had a lot more to do with the September collapse than chicken and beer ever did, even if it set the tone for the Nation's discontent with the local nine. But amid all the craziness, some things stand out more than others, and here is a summa-

ry of the things I think undid them the most.

Bobby Valentine Hired to Manage the Team: This poor guy never had a chance as legions of fans, players and the media were against him from the start. I said when he was hired he was the best candidate available, and from a strategic managing standpoint I still think he was. But while I knew the public relations aspect of managing in Boston was important, I vastly underestimated just how important. So I missed here by about six time zones as in the end it was apparent he was in the wrong place at the wrong time and then made it worse with his Bobby V-being-Bobby V ways.

Carl Crawford Needs Surgery: He was a big contract bust a year ago, which drew the ire of the Nation, and this news just made it worse. It also left them without a leftfielder for the first two months, starting the parade of minor-leaguers on the major-league roster.

The Opening Series: Losing all three games in Detroit brought the chicken-and-beer acrimony back right off the bat, and with emergency closer **Alfredo Aceves** unable to shut the door twice, the angst grew even more. **Josh Beckett** added another log to the fire by getting ripped in a 10-0 loss, ditto for **Clay Buchholz** and, losing two of the games sent jittery, new eight-inning guy **Mark Melancon** into such an awful tailspin he was soon banished to the minors after his ERA hit 49.50.

Down Goes Ellsbury: He was sensational in 2011, but after going down in the eighth game, he missed the next three months, and when he came back he never regained the magic from a year ago, to basically make it two lost seasons in the last three.

Bard the Starter: It was debated all winter: Should he stay a set-up guy, replace **Jonathan Papelbon** as closer or become a starter? **Ben Cherington** chose starter, and while he wasn't absolutely horrible,

he had increasing control issues that led to a meltdown in Toronto that continued all summer in the minors and in his return to the majors. Many attribute it to angst over being a starter, but the seeds were sown in the September collapse when he was 0-4 with a 10.94 ERA in 11 appearances.

The Youkilis-Bobby V Rift: Not sure if it was that they just didn't like each other or Youk was a loyal soldier who couldn't put Tito's firing behind him. But it was real, and Bobby V made it worse by talking about it to the media. It was exacerbated by a bad start, new injuries and the emergence of **Will Middlebrooks**, which all contributed to his being traded to Chicago for basically a box of rocks.

The Insurrection: It was the text message heard round the Nation when **Adrian Gonzalez** and **Kelly Shoppach** allegedly texted owner **John Henry** for a meeting to complain about Bobby V in hopes he'd get fired. As if the six homers Gonzalez had at the All-Star break had nothing to do with their troubles. When it leaked to the media, all heck broke loose and it basically was the end of the season.

The Trade: The public admission didn't come until a few weeks later, when Ben pulled off the stunning trade dumping an astonishing \$230 million in payroll on the Dodgers and made their first baseman literally A-Gone along with Crawford and the reviled Beckett.

After that, everyone turned the page to 2013, except many in the media, who continued making mountains out of molehills — but we'll talk about that in a few weeks. In the end, there's not much more to say than YIKES. It was a season to remember in the worst kind of way.

Dave Long can be e-mailed at dlong@hippo-press.com. He hosts *Saturday Morning Sports with Dave Long* from 10 a.m. to noon Saturdays on WGAM — The Game 1250-AM in Manchester and 900-AM in Nashua.

THE SITE OF Great Events in Manchester

First Glimpse of Central Football Dynasty Came in October of 1999

It was the waning days of the 20th Century where a plane crash had just claimed the life of John F. Kennedy Jr., reigning U.S. Open Golf Champ Payne Stewart was a few weeks away from a similar fate and Celtic great Kevin McHale was inducted into the Basketball Hall of Fame the same day. It was October 2nd of 1999 and unbeknownst to football fans they were watching the emergence of a high school football dynasty. But as Manchester Central geared up to face Memorial at Gill Stadium on the first Friday in October, the 2-2 Little Green had yet to give any indication what was about to unfold. But the 3,000 on hand saw it begin before their eyes, starting with a 5 yard TD run from Dave Jenkerson to make it 7-0 five minutes into the game. He followed that with another short TD run and a 10 yard scamper by fullback Harry Moy made it 21-0 after the 1st quarter. But they were just getting started. It grew to 28-0 when Eric Proulx went over from 21 yards out and it stretched to 35-0 in spectacular fashion when Mark Pinkos darted by the Memorial defensive line at his own 3 yard line and then out ran everyone else for a Gill Stadium record 97 yard touchdown run. The game's final score came when Justin Poltak recovered a Crusader fumble in the end zone to give the Green a stunning 42-0 win over their cross town rival as they started on their way to winning a remarkable 5 state titles over the next 6 years in what was another great event for Manchester.

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Sports Glossary

The 1962 New York Mets: Known back in the day as the Amazin's for just how amazingly bad they were in losing 120 and winning 40, while finishing a rather amazing 60.5 behind the first-place San Francisco Giants. Two starters lost 20 games, as **Roger Craig** and **Al Jackson** were 8-24 and 8-20 respectively. Another starter, **Jay Hook**, nearly did it by going 8-19, and reliever **Craig Anderson** somehow went 3 and 17. The manager was **Casey Stengel**, a beloved figure in New York for his entertainingly fractured syntax, unique logic as well as being a fixture in the city since the 1920s in being the only person in history to be associated with all four teams to play in New York, as a player with the Giants and Dodgers, and as a manager for the Dodgers, Yankees and Mets. His frustrated statement of "can't anyone here play this game?" was turned into a best-selling book of the same title by newspaper columnist **Jimmy Breslin**.

1964 Phillies: Team with a 6.5-game lead with 12 to play by losing 10 straight games between Sept. 20 and Sept. 30. It let the third-place Cardinals rally to take the pennant before the final day. The team included a future AL-MVP, **Dick Allen**; a future U.S. senator, **Jim Bunning**; a guy from my high school, shortstop **Bobby Wine**; and four future Red Sox players, (see ya later) **Danny Cater**, **Dennis Bennett**, **Rick Wise** and **Ray Culp**.

The 1965 Yankees: The year the dynasty crumbled by going from five-time defending champ of the American League following 1964 to a sixth-place club when all its stars aged overnight. At the top of the list was **Mickey Mantle**, who had 19 homers and just 46 RBI in 122 games. For '60 and '61 MVP **Roger Maris** it was 8 and 27, and for 1963 MVP **Ellie Howard** it was 9 and 46. When the sad season came to an end, the Yanks were 77-85 in the second division and it was downhill from there to last place in '66.

SPORTS DAVE LONG'S PEOPLE, PLACES & OTHER STUFF

Austin powers Trinity's 52-0 win over Laconia

The Big Story: Make it 108-6 in their last two games, as after thumping Laconia 56-6 a week ago the Trinity footballers came back with another dominating effort in a 50-0 win over Lebanon on Friday night at Gill Stadium. Running back **Austin Chambers** was the big man, scoring three first-half TDs on runs of 26, 15 and 19 and added a fourth by running back the second-half kickoff 89 yards to cap off the Pioneer scoring. Adding to the sweet romance of their unstoppable attack were two TDs by **Romeo Masuku** on runs of 13 and 68 yards. The onslaught moved Trinity to 4-1 on the year and set up this week's match-up with Kennett, who with Friday's win over Hanover has now won its last three straight.

Sports 101: Who is the all-time career leader in field goal percentage for the Celtics? And when you get that, name Nos. 2 through 5 on their all-time list.

The Battle of Nashua: It went to South in a soggy 30-17 over crosstown rival North on Sept. 28. It came behind the duo of **Trevor (good) Knight** and **Dymier Hyde (and seek)**, who scored three TDs between them in a 27-point second quarter and ran for 115 yards each as they handled

The Numbers

0 – saves needed by the Central girls to collect a 2-0 win over Memorial behind a stout defensive effort. **Victoria Vincent** got the game-winning goal and **Serena Shuter** put it out of reach with a goal at the 60:30 mark.

9 – TD passes on the season for Bedford's **Andy Vailas** after throwing 2 more in UNH's 34-14 win over previously undefeated Delaware when he was

23-36 for 315 yards.

55 – yards covered by Nashua North's **Gus Barroso** in the longest run not to go for a TD in last week's football play after being tackled on the 1-yard line, although he did finish off the score with a 1-yard dive the next play.

70 – seconds remaining when **Lexxi Carroll** scored in the nick of time to give SNHU a 1-0 win over Stonehill in NE-10 soccer action at the start of the

all 47 South runs from scrimmage. Hyde also hooked up with **Steven Choate** on a 70-yard pass run for the fourth TD.

Billie Jean King Gender Equity Award: Goes to Pinkerton's **Kaitlyn Lutinski**, whose 41 topped all the boys in leading the Astros to a tri-meet win over Alvirne and Spaulding at Rochester Country Club.

Landmark Win of the Week: Bedford soccer getting its first win ever over perennial title contender Hanover in a 1-0 win on Sept. 28. **Casey Schel** scored the lone goal on an assist from **Marco Ibanez** while **Taylor (made) Wallace** picked up the shutout.

On This Date – Oct. 6: 1926 **Babe Ruth** is first to hit 3 homers in a World Series game, in Yanks' 10-5 rout of the Cardinals. 1966 20-year-old **Jim Palmer** beats **Sandy Koufax** and becomes youngest to pitch a World Series shutout in Baltimore's 6-0 win. 1985 At 46 **Phil Niekro** is the oldest to win 300 games. 2010 **Roy Halladay** pitches second postseason no-hitter in 4-0 win over Cincinnati.

Sports 101 Answer: **Kendrick Perkins** at .563 is the Celtics career field goal percentage leader, followed by **Cedric Maxwell**, **Kevin McHale**, **Robert Parish** and **Eric Montross**.

week.

148 – rushing yards from **Hector Velez** when Central thumped Memorial 42-14, when teammate **Riley Cote** threw for 247 and 4 touchdown passes.

70,000 – approximate number of voice mails received at the NFL office in the aftermath of a controversial call that gave Seattle a 14-12 win over the Green Bay Packers on Monday Night Football on Sept. 24.

KATHLEEN KELLEY STATE SENATE



Friends,

I'm Kathleen Kelley – candidate for State Senate in District 16 and in the coming weeks I will be sharing with you my positions on some important issues in this race. Today, I want you to know that:

- I oppose a state income or sales tax for New Hampshire. Now is not the time to enact new taxes.
- I oppose efforts to allow a new prison in Manchester. Prisons should not be profit centers, and Manchester does not need a prison within its borders.
- The future of our kids is of great importance. So even in difficult economic times, our commitment to educating our kids must remain a top priority for lawmakers.

So please vote Kathleen Kelley on Tuesday, November 6th.

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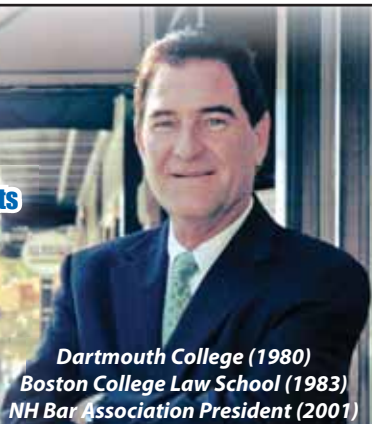
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HOME-GROWN

A look at the gabbers of community access and how you can join in the small-screen fun

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

It's easy to see why Manchester TV's Executive Director Jason Cote and Operations Specialist Joe Lahr call psychic and public access TV host Norm Moody the "local Oprah." Sporting a blue button-down shirt and a crooked smile, he jokes, laughs and gives you a hard time like you're old pals within minutes of your introduction.

It's 3:55 p.m. on a Wednesday when I meet him. He's preparing to begin his show, *Norm & Friends*, which runs from 4 to 6 p.m. on Manchester's Channel 23.

Wednesday is a big day at the Manchester TV studio. From noon to midnight, all the shows are live, save a 15-second time

delay. Howard McCarthy, who's in his 80s, starts out the live segment each Wednesday with a song in *The Old Lamp Lighter*. Then there's *Consider Your Playing Field* at 1 p.m., *In My Opinion* at 2 p.m. and *Inside Story* at 3 p.m.

Moody greets Mary Georges after *Inside Story* wraps up, and wanders over to the seat in the back of the studio. The brick wall is to his back, microphone is at the ready and three cameras are pointing at him. Brett Godson sits nearby, manning the cameras.

Moody has been on Manchester TV for 11 years now. He hosts guests, offers

advice and tells stories in his weekly show. People call for advice, they call to talk, and sometimes they call just to give him a piece of their mind.

It took him three years in front of the camera before he became comfortable, after lots of encouragement from Lahr. He owes the guys at Manchester TV a

lot, he says — he was homeless at one point — and he's grateful to be able to do what he does each Wednesday.

"I like to believe that we're helping people here. They want advice from us, and I give it with love and compassion," he tells me before the show begins. "Every viewer is an important phone call. I always say to them, 'You are the stars — I'm only the show host.'"

The clock changes, 3:59 to 4:00. The show begins. "It's going to be a wonderful day!" he tells his audience.





Video producer Sean Zajac at Derry Community Television. Kelly Sennott photo.

You can have a show, too

The wonderful thing about local access television is that anyone can create any kind of show. You just need an idea.

The challenge is figuring out how to bring that idea to life. If you want to create a show, it's natural to feel that you need to have camera skills, editing skills, storytelling skills and confidence in order to formulate a sketch that people will want to watch.

That's where the New Hampshire Coalition for Community Media (nhccm.org) comes in. Within this nonprofit organization are media groups from all over the state, all of which are dedicated to promoting public, education and government (PEG) access television in New Hampshire. They're there to fight for your voice, to help you promote your message, your talent, your stories to your local community. Visit the Nashua, Manchester, Bedford, Derry, Londonderry or other local access centers in your community, and you're sure to find the people you need to guide you in creating your production.

The only trouble with public access television now seems to be that not enough people know it exists, never mind that you can be a part of it.

"People are surprised that public access television is even there — that they can produce their own show," said Dan Young of Access Nashua.

"We're here to help you produce programs, and our helping is in the technical end of it," said Manchester TV's Cote. "We don't manipulate content in any way, and we don't take ownership of the content. All we're here to do is to make sure we get their content out to everybody, and that we do this in a quality way," he said.

And it's available for people of all ages and all levels.

"The younger generation has been immersed in [video technology] at a young age, and so it's a little easier for them to catch on sometimes because they've been using it all their life," said Erin Barry, training coordinator at Londonderry Access



Dan Young, Matt Holland and Steve Belanger: Garage X

Dan Young is the guy you'll work with to learn the ins and outs of filmmaking and producing a TV show at Access Nashua. But he initially became involved with Access Nashua through producing his own public access television show, *Garage X* on Nashua's Channel 96.

The show is a do-it-yourself car fix-it show, with car repair enthusiasts Matt Holland and Steve Belanger (above). Young has produced just two shows, but these are more complex than most TV shows you'll see on your public access channel. They're dynamic, 30-minute projects shot outside the studio (take a look, at accessnashua.com). The beginning looks like something from old-school MTV, with a catchy introduction flashing the slogan, "Garage X: Real cars, Real people, Real budgets." The show is pre-taped and pre-edited, and you can tell — there are phone scenes, outdoor scenes, repair scenes, interview scenes, fix-it scenes, and it moves effortlessly. In their first show, they work to refurbish and redesign a 1997 Ford F-150. The hosts don't describe themselves as experts, but they talk to the experts. It's lighthearted and fun, filled with funny dialogue and interesting shots of Belanger and Holland at work.

These shows take much longer to produce than most, and the work shows.

"Any time you go out of the studio, it becomes inherently more complicated," Young said. You have to worry about snow, leaf blowers, wind, rain, car noises and sunlight. "But one of the greatest parts: It's local content. There's no other place to do this," Young said.

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Here's what a green screen looks like, before and after, at the Access Nashua studio. Kelly Sennott photo.

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Staff producer Steve Shannon helps Steve Shaw get ready to film his show. Kelly Sennott photo.

Steve Shaw: Music and Life

It's the longest show name on Concord TV: Steve Shaw's *Without Music, Life Would Be a Mistake: Improvisation in Music and Life* is like a talk show about how art and music affect your outlook on life.

Shaw describes his show as an improv kind of show. He features guests, with whom he talks about how music affects their thoughts and feelings.

"I like the spontaneity. It's neat how people learn on camera," Shaw says.

It's very easy to sit in the hot seat and talk with him. At certain times, on a talk show like this, it's easy to forget the camera's even there, he says; much of the time, his hour-long segment flies by, and then, all of a sudden, he has only a few minutes to wrap up.

His most recent episode featured professional busker Kevin Clark. See his show on Concord's public access channel; it plays next on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 8 p.m.; Monday, Oct. 8, at 7 p.m.; and Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 9:30 p.m. Shaw will be leaving the country soon, so he's looking for someone to replace him on his show.

Center. But any age can learn. "We have people come in as young as 5 years old, as old as 80 We try not to limit people," Barry said. The 5-year-old did, however, have to stand on a box in order to learn how to use the camera.

The rules

The content of the show is technically controlled by you, the producer. The point of public access television is to enable locals to exercise their First Amendment right of free speech, and so most access centers don't even preview material before it's aired, said Jonathan LeDuc of Concord TV, for fear of editorializing.

"Our job is simply to provide the tools, training and transmission for locals to create their own television show," LeDuc said, "...the only rule is that you can't make money off of your video."

But each access center has some guidelines about what can and cannot go on the air, which they'll explain to you in an orientation. Obscene matter and material that constitutes libel, slander or an invasion of privacy or public rights are prohibited. Material must also be nonprofit or non-commercial. Cote and Lahr say they work in a "reactive" vs. "proactive" manner: Their live station features a 15-second time delay in case anything inappropriate finds its way on the air.

And many community television centers allow residents to sign out camera equipment after an orientation. But if you do sign a camera out, you're expected to put something on the channel. You can't just take the camera out "and go to your brother-in-law's wedding," Lahr said.

It's something special, Cote said, that local residents are able to produce content on public television with so few limits, that they have this freedom of speech and this outlet to express it. Many countries, Cote points out, don't have anything close to this.

HOME-GROWN TV

“We want to get voices out, so that voices will be heard, so that people in the community will realize it’s not about the one message, it’s about all the messages. ... It’s not about the studio, it’s about what goes out on the channel, and about the opportunity that’s involved, for the average person to be able to come out and be part of the dialogue without big spending or advertising ... it’s a great democratic leveler,” Cote said.

What is ‘good’ public access television?

So now that you have an idea for a show and you’ve learned how to use the camera, you’ve come to the most important part: How do you make your show worth watching?

Nashua Access Center’s Dick Gagnon describes good public access television as television “not shot in front of the blue curtain.” (Or, in some centers, the white curtain, maroon curtain or brick wall.) Shows should have a good opening with graphics and good editing with smooth transitions.

It’s also important to set a certain tone for each show. This can be done with creative use of sets, music and good tools.

It’s always refreshing to see shows that go outside the norm — that are filmed outside or that require advanced editing and research, Gagnon said.

“The extra work shows, and it adds variety,” Gagnon said. He and Young work individually with each producer to give character to their shows, to help them figure out how to tell the story through scenes, narration, sets and multiple shots.

The goal, Gagnon said, is for people to watch and say, “Wow. This is on public access?”

People don’t know just how good their shows can be, Gagnon said. Public access is not funded like commercial television, but, “you don’t have to be fully funded



Bob Stevens hosts his show, *Veterans Forum*, on Londonderry, Derry and Manchester TV. Courtesy photo.

Sharing stories — Bob Stevens in Veterans Forum

Bob Stevens is an 89-year-old veteran, and he’s still as sharp and charismatic as he ever was. He hosts *Veterans Forum*, which tells the stories of U.S. war vets.

You can see the show in a number of local towns; he’s on at 10:30 p.m. every night on Channel 23 in Derry, said Derry Community Television reporter Kimberly Haas. He’s also regularly on Manchester Community TV (Channel 23) and on Londonderry’s public access channel (CTV-20).

In *Veterans Forum*, Stevens and a veteran guest sit in front of an American flag and talk. With dark eyebrows and a short, light, “busy” beard (and a bald head, he adds, which “the mosquitos use as a landing!”), he’s a wonderful interviewer — funny, serious, patient and relatable.

Veterans Forum is a show featured across the country; veterans from all over host shows on their respective community television station. Stevens became interested in filming his own after he was interviewed on a *Veterans Forum* in Dalton, Mass.

“Frankly, I enjoyed it. I was a ham. I’m a good, cured ham,” he said. After he saw the playback of the show, he thought he’d try it out for himself. “I’ve been told — and I’m starting to recognize it — that I have an engaging manner, the ability to tell a story,” he said. He shot his first show in Pittsfield, Mass.

“I was given the statistic that in World War II there were 16 million guys doing their thing throughout the world. Of that crowd, there are less than 3 million still alive,” he said. “I’m an old sailor, and it’s corny but true: When they die, and they haven’t told their story, nobody will,” Stevens said.

Many veterans come on the air to tell their stories, and like Stevens, they find it cathartic. Perhaps it’s because, like Stevens says, he has an engaging manner about him. Maybe it’s because he, too, is a war vet. Many of the veterans who come on to tell their stories, though, have never told them before, Stevens said.

“Not all of us are John Wayne hero types. For many [interviews], it’s about the guy who did a simple thing. For others, it’s a bit more. But the bottom line is to get the word out to all the veterans, to come on the show and share their story,” he said.

“It’s at the bottom scale with TV production, and it’s just as good, if not better than something you’d see on commercial television sets. But then, I’m biased!” he admits. “The thing I’m happy about with my show: It’s history that’s made by people, and it’s told by the people who made it, the gal and the guy who did it,” he said.

Some stories will make you laugh, some will make you cry, Stevens said. “Now, big boys don’t cry, but when you have some real memories, you can cry all you want. This show tells the truth ... I’m just still trying to find that magic set of words, to have them [veterans] say, ‘OK, me next!’”



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to make your show fully professional,” Gagnon said. Access Nashua is decently funded, but it’s not necessarily the money that makes a show good. It’s the work that goes into it.

Lots of times, what you’ll see here is just as good as what you’ll see on commercial TV, Gagnon said, sitting on the sofa chair next to the giant green screen at the Nashua Access Center. He’s adept at working one on one with each hopeful producer. They usually spend the first part of their meeting talking, brainstorming about the show, coming up with ideas. He and Young are very determined that you get the look you want for your show, whether it be in the studio, outside in the snow or in a fully functioning kitchen.

But there is one big difference between public access television and commercial television: You might personally know the people on your public access channel.

You should see this

Whenever Gagnon travels, he likes to check out the local community access channel. He does this for a couple of reasons. It enables him to measure how well Nashua compares to other public access centers, for starters, and it also helps trigger new ideas.

“In the past 10 years, I’ve traveled a lot for conferences, as well as for another company I’ve worked for, even on vacation. But a lot of times, what I’ve caught on the local channel when I was in New York or out west, in Minnesota, I honestly wasn’t that impressed,” Gagnon said. The access center in California he learned about at a conference with a \$5 million budget was a bit ahead of what New Hampshire has, but for the most part, “I really think that New Hampshire is more advanced than a lot of Midwest and West Coast states,” he said.

It’s true that political topics are common on local access television — but wait before you flip the channel because you’re beyond tired of politics.

Workshops, classes and no stupid questions

Many access centers provide one-on-one lessons in camera, editing and television production. Londonderry, Manchester, Nashua and Derry, for instance, all offer these one-on-one lessons for their residents.

“Everyone has different needs. Some people have never touched a mouse, and some people are very adept at these things and want to get better,” said Joe Lahr, operations specialist at Manchester Public TV. “Some have a technical aversion, but boy to do they know how to talk!” he said.

Hosting group lessons has its perks, too. Nashua Access trainer Dan Young is looking to schedule some workshops for editing, filming and media journalism later in the year. Concord holds monthly classes and occasional workshops to accommodate its group of filming enthusiasts.

I was allowed to sit in on one of these classes, Introduction to Camera. My classmates were UNH screenwriting professor Dana Biscotti (looking to make an example for her students — she hopes that they’ll produce their writing in multimedia) and Nick Darling, a 17-year-old Concord High School senior who is filming Concord football games for a media class. (These classes are also free for Concord High School students to take.)

This small informal class, taught by production/training coordinator Jonathan LeDuc, assured me that I was not technically incompetent — that, in fact, I could totally produce this article in a film instead of in words, if my editors wished. (All right, we didn’t go that in-depth.)

It started with a fun video that gave basic tips for filming, such as not to cut off people’s chins. I learned the “rule of thirds,” how to “compose the nose,” and to look out for bad backgrounds (for example, make sure there aren’t any poles sticking out of

your subject’s head).

Then we learned how to use the camera — as that the access center distributes — how to turn the camera on, how to focus, to zoom in, zoom out, and how to adjust the settings and the lighting to best show off your subjects (and the lighting to avoid: overhead, fluorescent lighting, backlighting, and weird-colored lighting).

LeDuc gave us some tips on audio, too — basically, that if you’ve got bad audio, you’ve got nothing. Content is king, he said, “but audio is 90 percent of what you see.” “If people are interested in the content, they’ll still watch, even if the video is not as good,” LeDuc said. Use alternative sound, he advised (a microphone, perhaps), because the video camera will pick up the sound of every lawn mower, every whirl of wind and every car alarm in the area. “Air conditioning,” he said, “is the hallmark of bad audio.”

Knowledge of how to film and edit is not mandatory in order to create a basic show on most stations. The classes are open for those who are interested in becoming more tech-savvy or who would like to put a little more work into their show, but at most public access stations, the employees are there to help.

The best part of the class was that LeDuc assured that there were no stupid questions. Even when I had to ask a few times where the “off” button was on the camera.

Upcoming classes/workshops with Concord TV:

- Intro to Camera (\$25) is Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 6 p.m.; Wednesday, Nov. 7, at 6 p.m.; and Wednesday, Dec. 12, at 6 p.m.
- Intro to Editing (\$50) is a two-class package, offered Thursdays, Oct. 18 and Oct. 25, at 6 p.m.; Thursdays, Nov. 8 and Nov. 15, at 6 p.m.; and Thursdays, Dec. 13 and Dec. 20, at 6 p.m.



The cameraman's perspective at the Derry Community TV studio. Pictured, Kimberly Haas and Sean Zajac. Kelly Sennott photo.

There are no political ads on public access television. Instead, the political shows offer the opportunity to see more than 30 seconds of each local candidate, which is about what you'll see on major news networks, said Mary Wing Soares.

Soares is a Londonderry resident who created one of these shows through the Londonderry Access Center. Her experience began when she took on the role of producer on a show that was already established. She also filmed shows at the library, helped film Londonderry Olde Home Day and recorded other events around town. Once she had a year under her belt, she created a few more shows, one of which was a roundtable discussion with candidates for local office.

"I saw that this hadn't been done in our town before," she said. "We're very structured in our conversations with politicians, but I wanted to create a roundtable discussion — one in which we felt comfortable interrupting one another," she said.

"I'm interested in our town and our town politics. I like that these shows exist and that these shows are re-broadcasted. I also like the 'about town' kinds of shows, the kind that highlight different businesses, things that are happening in the town," she said.

Many folks become involved because they were invited to appear on another show as a guest, Gagnon and Lahr both said.

"You come here, you're invited to be on a show — it could be something you didn't really know about, and then, all of a sudden, you had a great time, and you want to do your own," Lahr said.

"Once people come and they find a place here, it becomes part of their life," Lahr said. "It's not for everybody, going on TV. Making yourself semi-famous is not for everyone, but for the people who do it, it becomes part of their very core. ...They're passionate about something, whether it's politics, God, the city, entertainment, sports."

Every center has its own personality

Most public access stations require that you be a resident or that you work within the city whose station you're requesting to create a show on. Check with the station for its rules.

• **Bedford Community Television** (10 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-8288) also has the PEG format — public (Channel 16), government (Channel 22) and school (Channel 23). The website (bedfordtv.com) offers live streaming and video on demand.

• **Concord TV** (170 Warren St., Concord, yourconcordtv.org, 226-8872) Although most of the programming is done by the public for the public, some of the programs are put together by employees at the access center. Channel 6 is the education channel, Channel 17 is for government and 22 is public access. Concord TV is described as an "on-air, community bulletin board" where local groups and nonprofits can publicize meetings and events. It's a nonprofit organization, incorporated in 1998, to manage Concord's community television center and its three channels. It's located within Concord High School, but it is a separate entity. Concord TV does not have live streaming of its show, but you can download shows from the website. Right now, only the Concord TV staff-produced shows are available for download, but soon all the shows that air on Concord TV will be available to download at yourconcordtv.org, said Jonathan LeDuc.

• **Derry Community Television** (Derry Municipal Center, 14 Manning St., Derry, 845-5518, derry.nh.us, derrytv.wordpress.com). Derry's media station is linked to organizations all over town, featuring channels 17 (government) and 23 (public access). There are a few key players at Derry Community Television — there's video producer Sean Zajac, cable system coordinator Chris Martin, assistant cable system coordinator Debbie Roy and something that most community television stations do not: a reporter and video producer, Kimberly Haas. The station is very active with Pinkerton Academy, offering internships for local high school students, and as with most access centers, it covers local events, moving around in its mobile truck. Training includes classes in basic camera, basic editing, studio production, audio production, lighting directing and graphics for video.

• **Goffstown Television** (goftown.com/gtv.html, 497-8990, 27 Wallace Road, Goffstown) began in 1992. Also located within the town high school, it features a public channel (16) and a government channel (22). Right now, there are seven regular shows within this smaller access station. They station is volunteer-based, David Suitor said, and while they do offer one-on-one lessons for residents who want to learn more about creating television, the employees at Goffstown television take care of most of the technical work.

• **Londonderry Access Community Television** (281 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 432-1147, lactv.com) is right next to

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◀ 19 the local high school. There's a public access (CTV-20) and a government (GOV-22) channel. The website offers live streaming. Londonderry Access Center is one of the larger stations in the area, led by Erin Barry. In addition to providing residents access to filming equipment, studio usage and lessons (which are free), the access center offers summer camps and kids' after-school programs on Tuesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. (Their latest venture is in creating Halloween movies.) "It's surprising how many people don't know that we're available for anyone looking to work on a show -- it's pretty much as local as you can get," Barry said. TV topics have a wide range, from learning to eat right to travel.

• **Manchester TV** (manchestertv.org, 628-6099, 1045 Elm St., Manchester, manchestertv@comcast.net) hosts three community access channels. Channel 16 is dedicated to art, culture and education. This includes local sports, school graduations, musical concerts and parades. Channel 22 hosts government meetings and programs about city services. Channel 23 is where local residents can produce their own shows. Manchester Public Television was created July 1, 2010, and is available on Comcast cable; live streaming is available online (it requires a download of Microsoft Silverlight). Private, one-on-one instruction is available. Representing the biggest city in the state, it's also one of the only channels that features live public access television. These programs take place at the studio itself. "People like it when the phone rings. It means people are watching. It means that people are being stimulated enough to call, and they're interested," Lahr said. "It's wonderful, because you're actually interacting with the community while it's happening," he said. Access to the public TV center is \$100 per year.

• **Merrimack TV** (6 Baboosic Lake Road, Merrimack, 423-8561, merrimacktv.com) offers three local access channels, including the community channel on 22; education on 21 and government on channel 20. The station provides video equipment facilities and training for Merrimack residents and non-profit groups who serve in Merrimack.

• **Access Nashua** (accessnashua.org, 11 Riverside St., Nashua, 589-3141) is a relatively new to public TV. The town had been considering it for years, but it wasn't until 2011 that Mayor Donnalee Lozeau put Nashua's public access center in the budget for a trial run. After one year, the city decided to renew the contract and fund it. "Our job is to make it as easy as possible to produce a show.... They [producers] like the willingness of the team to work with them," Dick Gagnon said. Gagnon worked for 17 years at Goffstown's television station before he made his way to Nashua. Right now the access center features about 17 shows. This is one of the few channels that offers both online streaming and video on demand. Public channel is 96, government is 16 and education is Channel 99.

• **Windham** Visit nhccm.org to find out how to connect with your public access center.

HOME-GROWN TV

It's not just on-air talent that's needed — most access centers feature just one or two full-time employees, if that. Many of these centers rely on the interest they generate. Londonderry boasts nearly 100 volunteers and 34 different shows. The more people are involved, the more people will watch, and the more people watch, the better the shows will be.

It would be nice if each access station had enough interest and participation to run local shows 24/7 on its public access channel, but not every town is as big as Manchester or Concord. So some stations opt to use "filler" shows, said Goffstown Television's temporary coordinator, David Suitor. The melting pot of public access shows at nhccm.org, the website of the New Hampshire Coalition for Community Media, has system downloads that local stations can use — for instance, Goffstown used to regularly download the Londonderry Access show *Political Chowder*, Suitor said. He also uses websites like pegonde-mand.tv and the national website pegmedia.org (although they're useless to locals; you need an account to maneuver around them freely). Gagnon of Nashua has run Windham's cooking shows on the Access Nashua station, he said, and he enjoys Keene's public access station, Cheshire TV, as well.



At Concord's Intro to Camera class, Nick Darling and Dana Biscotti Myskowski. Courtesy photo.

Gary Hopper and Matt Connarton: Rock, Paper, Hand Grenades

It seems that everyone in community television knows each another. Representative Gary Hopper was a guest on *Norm & Friends* on Wednesday, Sept. 19, but lo and behold, he hosts his own show on Manchester TV, too, with Matt Connarton: *Rock, Paper, Hand Grenades*. It's a political talk show, also shot in the Manchester TV studio, and they talk about everything, from political and social issues to Hillary Clinton's most recent book. The show is filmed every Wednesday, from 6 to 7 p.m., right after *Norm & Friends*.

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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT OCTOBER 4 - 10, 2012, AND BEYOND

Saturday, Oct. 6

Today, all the dogs are named "Bud" — bring yours to Walktoberfest at Anheuser Busch Brewery (221 DW Highway, Merrimack) between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. to enjoy demonstrations, food and beer. The Humane Society of Greater Nashua will be on site with dogs available for adoption. Admission is \$5, free for children 11 and younger. Proceeds benefit the Humane Society. Visit www.hsfh.org or call 889-2275, ext. 35.



Thursday, Oct. 4

Ditch the daily grind and meet Jim Salmon, author of *Rime of the Ancient Underwriter: How I Stowed the Day Job and Went to Sea*, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord. In 2000, Salmon left his job as an insurance underwriter and took a 19-month trip around the world. He lives in New Hampshire and now spends his summers as a part-time schooner captain.



Thursday, Oct. 4

Guys, try some broga — that's yoga for bros — at the Manchester Yoga Mill (250 Commercial St., Suite 3005E, Manchester). Classes are every Thursday from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Drop-in class is \$13. Call 933-0878 or email info@manchesteryoganh.com. See www.manchesteryoganh.com. Girls are welcome, too, but the exercises are designed for men.



Saturday, Oct. 6

Who knows what you might find in your family tree? The New Hampshire Society of Genealogists, that's who. Attend the fall meeting at the Holiday Inn in Concord (172 N. Main St.), from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Dartmouth alum Laura G. Prescott, a past president of the Association of Professional Genealogists, will be the main speaker. Admission is \$20, lunch included, and prior registration is required. Call 664-9080. See www.nhsog.org.



Saturday, Oct. 6

Warm up with Nuno felting at the New Hampshire Craftsmen Nashua Gallery at 98 Main St., Nashua, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. You'll create a scarf from the material. Class fee is \$60 to register plus a \$35 materials fee. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org. Pictured: Nuno felted curved wrap, Australian merino wool felted onto knitted silk, by Grace Levis, Society of Arts and Crafts of New South Wales.

Free: Apple fun

Food costs extra, but there's no charge to wander around and enjoy the festive atmosphere on Saturday, Oct. 6, Apple Harvest Day in Dover, with entertainment on three stages and a pie baking contest; see dovernh.org. The same goes Sunday, Oct. 7, when Hollis Woman's Club presents its Apple Festival at Hollis Town Common from 2 to 4 p.m. with live music; see holliswomansclub.org.

Cheap: Kerouac appreciation

In the Lowell Celebrates Kerouac festival, see the regional premiere of the film *The Typewriter*, which explores the role of typewriters in the literary contributions of the 20th century's great writers, Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. at Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center Theater, 245 Market St., Lowell, Mass. It's technically free, but donations of \$5 to \$10 are suggested. See www.lowellcelebrateskerouac.org.

Splurge: Golf

Get in a few last putts at the Fall Classic Golf Tournament at Plausawa Valley Country Club Golf Course (42 Whittemore Road, Pembroke) on Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 9 a.m. Shotgun start and cash prizes to winners. Cost is \$75 for prior registration, or \$95 to register on the day of the event. Visit www.wildroverpub.com.

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The dynamic edge of dance

Ailey II brings the revolution to a new generation

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Technically, Ailey II, the troupe performing at the Dana Center on Saturday, Oct. 13, is the second production company of the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre.

But don't let that fool you. These young dancers, ranging in age 18 to 25, are oozing with energy, excitement and wonder, as they take American Dance Theatre to something that you have to see live to experience, said Bob Shea at the Dana Center.

"The dancing is so dynamic live because of the energy that's coming out of these people. It's so intensely physical, acrobatic, it's absolutely thrilling when you're just 20 feet away," Shea said.

And then there's the artistry that goes into the lighting, the costuming, all of the visual elements. And the music is just thrilling, too, Shea said.

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is known for having popularized modern dance in the 1950s and for its revolutionizing African-American participation in 20th-century dance. Led by Alvin Ailey, the troupe grew from a performance in 1958 in New York City that forever altered the perception of American dance. The style merges ballet, jazz and modern dance.

"The neat thing is that you don't have to have a background in modern dance in order to appreciate it," Shea said.

"We have a strong commitment to presenting America's greatest

Ailey II

When: Saturday, Oct. 13, at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Dana Center for the Humanities, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester

Admission: \$32.50, \$12.50 for students and children younger than 14, \$7 for Saint Anselm College students

Contact: 641-7700, dana@anselm.edu

professional dance companies," Shea said. "Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater is uniquely American — it's like the way that contemporary bands are to ballet," Shea said. He advises participants to view it as though they were listening to music rather than reading a book, following the storyline of the performance.

"Everyone will have their own subjective framework that interprets the dance, and everyone will probably share about 75 percent of it — the dances have strong personality and a point of view. That's what makes any work of art strong," Shea said.

Some may know the company for "Revelations," perhaps one of the best-known and most often seen modern dance performances through the company. In Manchester, the audience will be treated to "Echoes," "Rusty" and "Divining."

Twenty-one-year-old Paige Fraser, in her second year at Ailey II, has been traveling all over the country performing in this national tour. Born and raised in the



Ailey II comes to the Dana Center Oct. 13. Courtesy photo.

Bronx, N.Y., she says dancing with the Ailey II team has been a dream come true.

"It was an amazing, challenging experience," she said of learning "Rusty." The choreography was created so that it works with each of the dancers individually. "I love doing contemporary ballet — it allows me to show my long limbs and extremities. It's a very personal piece," she said.

It's her first professional job,

and technically she's considered an "Ailey baby," having gone through the company's high school program before she joined the Ailey II production.

"In Ailey II, we're all so passionate about what we do because we're so hungry to get to that next level. That's what inspires all of us. When I see the other dancers performing at such a high level on stage, it just makes me want to dance!" she said. The energy on

stage is contagious, she said. "I think that's what makes Ailey so different and special and energetic. When people see us perform, they get that vibe, and it seeps out into the audience."

The company has performed for an estimated 23 million people at theaters in 48 states, 71 countries and on six continents, according to the website. Visit alvinailey.org.

24 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more.
To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

THEATER LISTINGS

- **The Acting Loft**
670 N. Commercial St., Manchester, in the Jefferson Mill Building. 666-5999, actin loft.org
- **Actorsingers**
219 Lake St., Nashua, 889-9691, actorsingers.org
- **Adams Memorial Opera House**
29 W. Broadway, Derry, 437-0505, derryarts.org
- **Amato Family Center for the Performing Arts at Souhegan Valley Boys & Girls Club**

- 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, ext. 2, svbgc.com
- **Andy's Summer Playhouse**
Wilton, 654-2613, andyssummerplayhouse.org
- **Anselmian Abbey Players**
Dana Center, 641-7700
- **Bedford Off Broadway**
Meetinghouse Rd, Bedford, 557-1805, bedfordoffbroadway.com
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- **Bedford Youth Performing Company**
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- **Concord Community Players**
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- **My Act**
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- **Nashua Theatre Guild**
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- 03061, 320-2530, nashuatheatreguild.org
- **New Thalian Players**
newthalianplayers.org, 666-6466
- **Nashua Community College Performing Arts Club (PAC)**
505 Amherst St., Nashua, 428-3544
- **The Palace Theatre**
80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org
- **Peacock Players**
14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000, peacockplayers.org

FIVE AND DIME



The first show of the Nashua Theatre Guild's 52nd season is *Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean*. Take a trip to a 1975 dusty Texas town, where a Jimmy Dean fan club meets for a reunion on the 20th anniversary of their hero's death. The curtain rises at the Janice B. Streeter Theater (14 Court St., Nashua, 320-2530, nashuatheatreguild.org, nashuatheatreguild@gmail.com) Oct. 11, with showtimes on Thursday, Oct. 11, at 8 p.m.; Friday, Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 13, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Pictured, Danielle Melillo and Amy Agostino. Courtesy photo.

- **Pittsfield Players**
6 Depot St., Pittsfield, 435-8852, pittsfieldplayers.com
- **Profile Chorus**
profilechorus.org
- **School of Theater Arts at The Amato Center for Performing Arts**
56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, ext. 20
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- **Stage One Productions**
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- **FROST HEAVES** at Peterborough Players Theatre (55 Stearns Farm Road, Peterborough, 924-7585) shows on Fri., Oct. 5, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 6, at 2 p.m. and at 7:30 p.m.; and on Sat., Oct. 6, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15.
- **THE LEGEND OF POCAHONTAS** at Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) Oct. 10 through Oct. 18. Tickets \$12. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org for times.
- **COME BACK TO THE 5 AND DIME, JIMMY DEAN, JIMMY DEAN** at Janice B. Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua, Thurs., Oct. 11, at 8 p.m.; Fri., Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 13, at 2 and 8 p.m.; and Sun., Oct. 14, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$15. Visit nashuatheatreguild.org or call 320-2530.
- **FIDDLER ON THE ROOF** on Sat., Oct. 13, at 7:30 p.m., Sun., Oct. 14, at 2 p.m., Sat., Oct. 20, at 7:30 p.m., and Sun., Oct. 21, at 2 p.m., at the Jewish Federa-

tion Theater Stage (698 Beech St., Manchester, 800-838-3006). Tickets are \$20.

- **THE 39 STEPS** presented by Milford Area Players Oct. 18-Oct. 29, at the Amato Center, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Tickets are \$12. Visit milfordareaplayers.org.
- **DEVIL BOYS FROM BEYOND** shows on Fri., Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 13, at 8 and 11 p.m.; and Sun., Oct. 14, at 3 p.m., at the Acting Loft, 670 N. Commercial St., Manchester. Tickets are \$15. Visit gltn.org.

- **CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF** shows at the Community House of Marlborough, 160 Main St., Route 101, Marlborough, on Fri., Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 13, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Sun., Oct. 14, at 2 p.m.; Thurs., Oct. 18, at 8 p.m., and Fri., Oct. 19, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$12. Free concessions.

- **AILEY II DANCE COMPANY** in concert at the Dana Center (100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester) Sat., Oct. 13, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$32.50. Call 641-7700 or email dana@anselm.edu.

- **FOOTLOOSE** at Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) on Fri., Oct. 26, at 7:30 p.m. The show plays Thursdays-Sundays through Sat., Nov. 10. Call 668-5588 or visit palacetheatre.org for times. Tickets are \$15-\$45.

- **BAT BOY: THE MUSICAL** at Southern New Hampshire University, presented by the New Thailain Players, Fri., Oct. 19, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 20, at 8 p.m.; and Sun., Oct. 21, at 1 p.m. Tickets are \$17. Visit newthailainplayers.org.

- **SNOW WHITE AND THE SEVEN DWARFS** Oct. 9 through Oct. 21 at 14 Court St., Nashua, 886-7000. Shows are at

7 p.m. Fridays, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. on Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Visit peacockplayers.org. Tickets are \$10-\$17.

Auditions/open calls

- **AUDITIONS** for the Menotti opera, *Amahl and the Night Visitors* will be held on Thurs., Oct. 4, at 6:30 p.m., at All Saints Anglican Church, 124 Hall St., Concord. All roles open. Bring English song for audition. Call 781-5695.

- **CALL FOR SINGERS** for Rhythm of New Hampshire Show Chorus, which is seeking female singers to join a capella barbershop singing. Visit a Thursday rehearsal 6:45-9:15 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center (35 W. Broadway, Derry), call 800-696-7351 or visit rmhchorus.org.

- **CALL FOR ACTORS** to portray historic figures in Goffstown's past for a cemetery tour. Volunteers will be given historical information and asked to use it as the basis for a brief monologue. Call 497-9933, email info@goffstownmainstreet.org.

- **CALLING MUSIC/CHO-REOGRAPHY DIRECTORS** to those interested in directing Nashua's Actorsingers' spring production of *Curtains*. Email cover letter and resume to secretary@actorsingers.org.

Workshops/other

- **MEET THE PLAYWRIGHTS** at ACT ONE Festival at West End Studio Theatre (959 Islington St., Portsmouth) on Sun., Oct. 7, at 3:30 p.m. Meet writers Leslie Pasternack and Kate Wenner. Free. Call 300-2986.

- **NH THEATRE PROJECT** is holding workshops, classes, theater camps, a membership drive and more. Call 431-6644, or visit nhtheatreproject.org.

- **PLAYREADING CIRCLE** most second Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, 886-6030, rogerslibrary.org.

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THEATER CURTAIN CALLS

• **Free tickets for students:** The Concord Community Concert Association is extending its traditional student outreach by offering free tickets to the four concerts planned for the 2012-2013 season at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord, theaudi.org) to all area music students and their families. The season-opening concert is Saturday, Oct. 6, featuring renowned Mexican virtuosi flutist Marisa Canales and pianist Roberto Hidalgo. Tickets for this first show can be obtained at the UPS Store (75 S. Main St., Concord). Also on this concert list is the baroque quartet from Great Britain: Red Priest plays at the Audi on Tuesday, Nov. 6. Other shows include the Symphony NH Concertmaster String Quartet in March and Brazilian pianist Victor Cayres in April. The ticket offer has been extended through the principals and music departments of area high schools, but they're available to all music students and their families, too. Call 224-1036.

• **New Hampshire Theatre Awards new members:** The New Hampshire Theatre Awards elected four new members to its board of directors: Matthew Gregg, NHTA founder and senior manager, HR communications for Apple Inc; Gina Carballo of Ameriprise Financial Services; Morgan Murphy of Whitebridge Farm Productions; and professional actor

and director Scott H. Severance. "We're excited about the additions to the board, and we're grateful that Matty Gregg is returning to NHTA in an increasingly active role," said Executive Director Bob Frasca in a press release. In its 11th theater awards season, this year, the event will also move to a new venue in the Stockbridge Theatre in Derry. "It's one of the most beautiful facilities in our state, and we're extremely excited about how this venue will enhance the entire awards experience," Frasca said in the release. Visit nhtheatreawards.org.

• **School Days Series:** For families looking for fun, live theater productions on a budget, kids from 80 local schools, homeschoolers and families are invited to attend the Portsmouth Music Hall's hour-long matinees as part of its longest-running program, *School Days Series*. The aim of the series is to provide learning opportunities to the community by presenting live theater for young learners, their teachers and families, serving more than 20,000 school kids each year, according to the press release. Shows to look for: *The Velveteen Rabbit*, *Treasured Stories by Eric Carle* and *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie*. Tickets are \$6 each; arrange a visit by calling 433-3100, ext. 4013.

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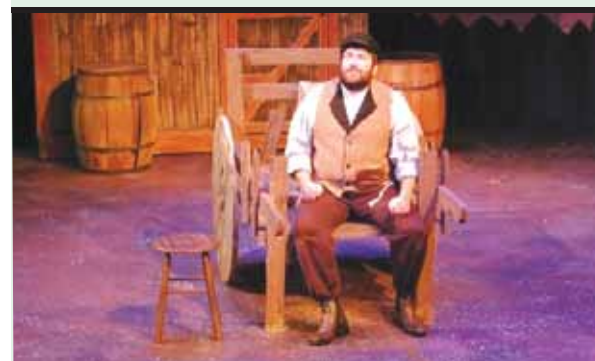
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- **Chimera Gallery**
99 Factory St. Ext., Nashua, chimeragallery.net, 888-2661
- **Conservation Center Gallery Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests**
54 Portsmouth St., Concord, 224-9945, ext. 311
- **Currier Museum of Art**
150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144
- **Currier Art Center**
180 Pearl St., Manchester, 669-6144, ext. 122
- **Darkroom Gallery**
4 Vinton St., Manchester, 606-3322, darkroomgallery.net
- **East Colony Fine Art**
Langer Place, 55 S. Commercial St., Manchester, 621-7400
- **Eaton-Richmond Center Gallery**
Daniel Webster College, 20 University Drive, Nashua, 577-6000, dwc.edu
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FIDDLER



The story of Tevya and his family in Anatevka, Russia, comes to the Jewish Federation Stage (698 Beech St., Manchester) this fall in *Fiddler on the Roof*. The play, presented by the Manchester Community Players, is about a 1905 Russian family finding hope and happiness in a time of poverty and oppression. Performance times are on Saturday, Oct. 13, at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 14, at 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 20, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 21, at 2 p.m. Tickets are \$20 (\$10 for students 18 and younger). Visit brownpapertickets.com/event/272665 or call 800-838-3006.

• **Gallery One Nashua Area Artists Association (NAAA)**
Mill House Design Center, 5 Pine Street Ext., Nashua, 883-0603, naaasite.org

Manchester, 627-7560

• **Jewell & the Beanstalk**
793 Somerville St., Manchester, 624-3709

• **Kimball-Jenkins School of Art**
266 N. Main St., Concord, 225-3932

FOLK TUNES



Tunes from a ukulele, clarinet, guitar and banjo will be heard at the Sharon Arts Center (30 Grove St., Peterborough, sharonarts.org) Good Neighbor Series on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 7 to 9 p.m., when Massachusetts folk duo Mark Mandeville and Rianne Richards visit to play some Americana music. Opening the concert will be guitarist and vocalist Seth William Chatfield and singer Adam Phoenix, who will perform some original pieces and their own spin on popular covers. Admission to the concert is \$8 (\$5 for students). Visit sharonarts.org or call 924-7676. Courtesy photo.

- **League of NH Craftsmen, Gallery 205**
205 N. Main St., Concord, 224-3375, nhcrafts.org
- **Loading Dock Gallery, Western Avenue Studios**
122 Western Ave., Lowell, Mass., 978-349-8069
- **MAA Gallery**
1528 Elm St., Manchester, 785-6437
- **Maison De L'Art**
57 E. Pearl St., Nashua, 879-9888 or 424-0544
- **Mariposa Museum**
26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555
- **Massabesic Audubon Center**
26 Audubon Way, Auburn, 668-2045
- **McGowan Fine Art**
10 Hills Ave., Concord, 225-2515
- **McIninch Gallery at SNHU**
2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 629-4622
- **Mill Brook Gallery and Sculpture Garden**
236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, 226-2046 (by appointment in winter)
- **Millyard Museum**
200 Bedford St., Manchester, 622-7531
- **Museum of NH History**
6 Eagle Sq., Concord, 228-6688, nhhistory.org
- **Nashua Library Image Gallery**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610
- **New Hampshire Institute of Art**
French Building Gallery, 148 Concord St.; Amherst Street Gallery, 77 Amherst St., Manchester, 836-2573, nhia.edu
- **Red River Theatres Community Gallery**
11 N. Main St., Concord, 224-4600
- **River Art Studios**
99 Factory St. Ext., Nashua, 882-1199, riverartstudios.com
- **Rivier College Art Gallery**

Memorial Hall, 435 S. Main St., Nashua, 897-8276

- **New Hampshire Art Association's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery**
136 State St. in Portsmouth, 431-4230
- **S. Grigas Art Studio & Gallery**
174 Main St., Nashua, 233-9565
- **Stockbridge Theatre Gallery at Pinkerton Academy**
5 Pinkerton St., Derry, 437-5200, ext. 5112
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- **Valley Artisans Artists Gallery**
10 Gaboro Road, Epsom, 736-8200
- **Warm Stone Studio**
99 Factory St. Ext., Nashua, 595-9500, warmstonestudio.com
- **White Birch Fine Art**
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Art events

- **SEACOAST ARTIST ASSOCIATION NIGHT OUT** to support its art scholarship for graduating seniors on Wed., Oct. 3, 4-10 p.m., at Margaritas Mexican Restaurant, 93 Portsmouth Ave., Exeter. Margaritas donates 15 percent of pre-taxed food and beverage sales. Call 772-2274 for call-ahead seating.
- **12TH ANNUAL LOWELL OPEN STUDIOS** features more than 140 artists who live and work in Lowell, Mass., Sat., Oct. 6, and Sun., Oct. 7, 11 a.m. to 5

p.m. Meet artists, see where they work, view art. Visit lowellopenstudios.org to find participating artists and galleries.

- **NIKKI'S DREAM ART AND RELAXATION** group Fridays, Oct. 5-Nov. 16, 6:30-8 p.m., hosted at C.R.E.A.T.E., 141 Union St., Manchester. Free. Call 315-6700 or email diane@nikkisdream.com to register.
- **MAXFIELD PARISH VINTAGE PRINT & COLLECTIBLE SALE** Oct. 6-7, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Plainfield Town Hall, Route 12A, Plainfield, 675-6866, pnsnh.org.

• **CONCORD ARTS MARKET** on Saturdays through October, 9 a.m.-3 p.m., at Bicentennial Square, Concord. Free admission and downtown parking. Visit concordartsmarket.com.

• **FIRST THURSDAYS** The Currier Museum of Art is open late from 5:30-7:30 p.m., first Thursday of each month with special programs including live music, lectures and film, at 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144, ext. 108, currier.org.

• **GOOD NEIGHBOR SERIES** Sharon Arts Center is hosting a series of cultural programs at its Exhibition Gallery, 30 Grove St., Peterborough, 924-7676, sharonarts.org. Series will feature presentations by professional artists on the first and third Saturdays of the month, 7-9:30 p.m.

• **PICKER ART GALLERY** will host an open studio/meet the artists day on the first Saturday of the month, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Picker Building, 99 Factory St. Extension, Nashua, 305-6256.

Exhibit openings

- **JANE ROMPS AND JUDY MCLEAN** show "Mixing it Up" at East Colony Fine Art Gallery (55 S. Commercial St., Manchester) in Langer Place through Oct. 27. Opening reception on Thurs., Oct. 4, 5-8 p.m. Visit eastcolony.com.
- **"NOVELS FOR KEEPING"** featuring works by Amanda Laurel Atkins at Three Graces Gallery, 105 Market St., Portsmouth, 436-1988, threegracesgallery.com, Oct. 5-Oct. 19. Opening reception Fri., Oct. 5, 5-8 p.m.
- **DOWNTOWN ABBEY: THE PORTSMOUTH CONNECTION** exhibit shows at Portsmouth Athenaeum's Randall Gallery (9 Market Square), Oct. 5 through Dec. 1. Opening reception on Fri., Oct. 5, 5-8 p.m. Visit portsmouthathenaeum.org or call 431-2538.
- **"EMPOWERING WOMEN OF ALL AGES"** inclusive art show featuring work of women across generations at Women's Club of Concord (44 Pleasant St., Concord, 229-2157, womansclubofconcord.org), Oct. 5 through Oct. 31. Opening reception Fri., Oct. 5, 5:30-7:30 29 ▶

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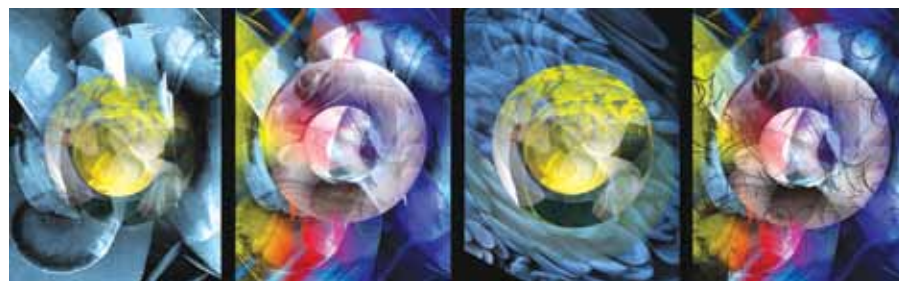
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ARTS

Embracing color and life

Art brightens days that need it



Harry Uman's installation in Nashua's Norris Cotton Cancer Center, "Sphere Cascade Group."

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Richard Perry saw that the art was working as soon as they began to hang the pictures.

He won't take credit for the idea; he says he took the concept of create a rotating art gallery in the Norris Cotton Cancer Center from the Massachusetts General Hospital "Illuminations" program.

That was about a year ago. The Manchester opening reception was Thursday, Sept. 27, when the public, artists, patients and former patients came to see the art that now decorates the center. A panel of jurors chose 59 pieces of work from 15 artists to hang in Norris Cotton's three New Hampshire cancer centers.

"The goal was to inspire our patients and their families, to have something interesting, fun to look at," said Christine Telge, the Manchester coordinator for the Friends of Norris Cotton Cancer Center. Neither she nor Perry realized the extent of their work until September, when they began to hang the art along Norris Cotton's dulled green and golden yellow walls.

"When we were hanging the artwork, patients were so engaged in what we were doing, what was happening, who it was by. For me, I didn't expect it to be so uplifting or so inspirational, but the feedback I've gotten from the patients, the artists, has been wonderful," Telge said.

"A woman asked me if I would hang a particular photo by her chair," Perry recalled. It was a picture of a 1950s truck in a never-ending field of grass on a partly-cloudy kind of day. It took her to another place, she explained. "It reminded her of her youth," Perry said. "When you see art, you go to a different place," he said. Hospitals can be very clinical, Perry said, and when you're sick, that can be scary.

The exhibit hits close to home for Perry; he lost both of his parents to cancer. Both his wife and his daughter had cancer, and his daughter was treated at the Norris Cotton Cancer Center. He admired how well she was taken care of there, as a patient

and as a person, he said. The relationships weren't clinical; he didn't want the walls to feel clinical, either.

The gallery is an enormous improvement from the industrial art that covered the walls of the center before, said Jenelline Young of Nashua. The colors were soothing and calming, but that's not really what you want when you're a patient, she said. She, too, was a patient at the cancer center.

"When you're ill, you want to look at something that will you help you embrace life," Young said at the opening of the gallery. "You need something to brighten your day, to make you feel something," she said.

Harry Uman's 16-foot by 64-inch mural, "Sphere Cascade Group," will hang in the center in Nashua. He's a professor of graphic design at Southern New Hampshire University, but he had an interest in this particular exhibit, too — he's also a cancer survivor.

The pieces he created were specifically for this exhibit. He created his piece using 3-D software. What he wanted to capture most, he said, was symmetry and balance. "Those are the kinds of things that help emotionally," Uman said.

"One thing you get in this medical system: a sense of confinement. You're separated from the outside world. These pieces of art help people reconnect to health and external life. They're portals, windows, in each and every frame, and present a way for audiences to reconnect with the outside world," Uman said.

"Healing with Art"

Will also exhibit at the Norris Cotton Cancer Center in Nashua and Lebanon.

Lebanon: Opening reception is on Thursday, Oct. 4, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Norris Cotton Cancer Center Oncology Radiology Reception Area-2K (1 Medical Center Drive, Lebanon). RSVP by emailing Christine.A.Pariseau-Telge@hitchcock.org.

Nashua: Opening reception is on Thursday, Oct. 11, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at Norris Cotton Cancer Center, 2300 Southwood Drive, Nashua. RSVP by emailing Christine.A.Pariseau-Telge@hitchcock.org.

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ARTS LOCAL COLOR

• **Strawberi Fields opening:** In the renovated Mills building in downtown Newmarket, there's a new space for art, music and poetry. Local artisan Jes Alford — who created the murals of Jerry Garcia, Johnny Cash, Miles Davis and Jimi Hendrix at the Stone Church in Newmarket — opens Strawberi Fields Art & Boutique (55 Main St., Suite 102, Newmarket, strawberifieldsartandboutique@gmail.com) with an opening reception Saturday, Oct. 6, from 4 to 9 p.m. At the opening, there will be wine and cheese tastings and performances from poet Maggie Hames, hip-hop group Paper Count and bassist Gregory Rothwell. This event represents a lifelong dream for Alford, who has been working to build this space for creating, educating and enjoying for two years. "What I'm looking to do is incorporate anybody and everybody who is looking to come in and create.... This is about the celebration of sharing a common bond through art, and to practice and inspire a space that's a judge-free zone, full of positive people in a positive atmosphere," Alford said in the press release.

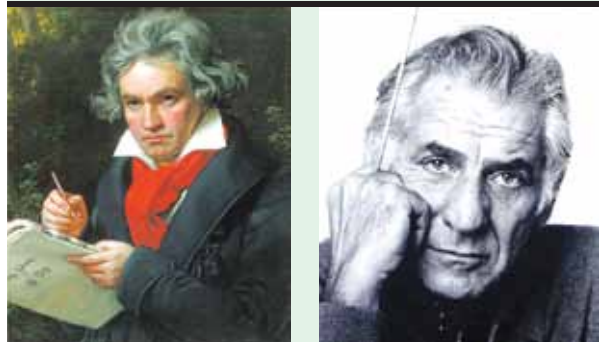
• **New sculptures at Andres:** Four new sculptures will be unveiled at a public ceremony on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 3 p.m., at Andres Institute of Art, 98 Route 13, in Brookline. "The closing ceremony ... is the highlight of our year," said Keith Trexler, president of the Institute's board of directors, in a press release. The sculptures were created by artists from Europe and Asia and will be

installed along trails in the Institute's 140-acre sculpture park, which already boasts about 70 sculptures. There's free, walk-in access to the park during daylight hours. Call 261-6773 or visit andresinstitute.org.

• **Teaching art:** Registration is open for this year's New Hampshire Arts Education conference, "Opening Minds to the Arts: Investing in Arts Education for a new generation." Parents, teachers and community art leaders are welcome at workshops and seminars that support curricula in art, music, theater and more on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Kearsarge Regional Middle School (32 Gile Pond Road, North Sutton). Visit nh.gov/nharts or call 271-0795.

• **Christmas in October:** The League of NH Craftsmen is hosting an exhibition, "Holidays Around the World," at the Craft Center at 49 S. Main St., Concord, Oct. 5 through Dec. 12. Handmade ornaments, jewelry, mugs and vases, tablecloths, folk art and more, all with a holiday theme, will fill the exhibition. "The fine craft on display in this exhibit represents each craft person's vision of the holidays and their heritage and background. Many of these craft pieces are specifically made to be used and enjoyed during the holiday season and would make perfect gifts," said Susie Lowe-Stockwell, executive director of the League of NH Craftsmen. The opening is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 5, from 5 to 7 p.m. Call 224-3375 or visit nhcrafts.org.

IN HARMONY



It's concert season in New Hampshire, and the New Hampshire Philharmonic kicks off its season with "Beethoven and Bernstein" on Saturday, Oct. 13, at 7:30 p.m., at the historic Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester). There will be stirring works by Beethoven and Bernstein, including music from *West Side Story*, the "Bernstein Candide Overture," "Hovhaness Exile Symphony" and Beethoven Piano Concerto No. 5., played by pianist and audience favorite George Lopez. The full orchestra of the New Hampshire Philharmonic show performs in this season premiere, and Mark Latham will conduct. Tickets are \$12 to \$50. Visit nhphilharmonic.org. Portrait of Beethoven by Joseph Karl Stieler, 1820. Photo of Leonard Bernstein by Jack Mitchell from Wikimedia Commons.

◀ 27 p.m. Donation suggested. • **BEAMAN COLE** showcases at Kennedy Gallery (41 Market St., Portsmouth, 436-7007) during

October in "Portsmouth Perspectives." Reception on Fri., Oct. 5, 5-8 p.m. • **CLAIRE LOWENTHAL** will

show her abstract work at the Hancock Town Library (25 Main St., Hancock), Oct. 6 through Nov. 15. Opening reception Sat., Oct. 6, 4-6 p.m. Call 525-4411. • **SHERIE DOWSETT** shows photography at the Wine Studio (53 Hooksett Road, Manchester, 622-9463) through October. Artist reception and wine tasting on Thurs., Oct. 11, 6-8 p.m. • **LILLY ONCOLOGY ON CANVAS** art exhibition honoring the journeys people face when confronted with cancer diagnosis, on display at the Capitol Center of the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord) on Thurs., Oct. 11, through Sat., Oct. 13. Free; open 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Call 738-4404. • **CELEBRATING THE HARVEST** art show at Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst) Oct. 2-Nov. 3. Artist reception on Sun., Oct. 14, 2-4 p.m. • **"BEAUTIFUL DECAY"** gallery opens at artstream LLC, 56 N. Main St., Rochester, 330-0333, on Sat., Oct. 6, and will be available for viewing until Oct. 31. Attend opening during Rochester's Art Stroll, the first Saturday of the month, 5-7 p.m. Visit artstreamstudios.com. • **JOAN L. DUNFEY MEMORIAL JURIED EXHIBITION** at NHAA's Robert Lincoln Levy Gallery, 136 State St., Portsmouth, Wed., Oct. 31, through



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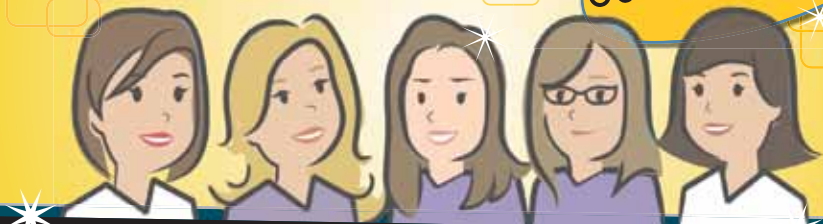
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YOUNG ART



New Hampshire's Generation Y will take part in the Exeter Arts Committee's "30 Under 30" group exhibition at the Exeter Town Hall Gallery (10 Front St., Exeter, 234-3827) this month, with an opening reception Friday, Oct. 5, from 7 to 10:30 p.m. Visitors will be treated to live music by local bands Comma and Gnarlomagne and live body painting by Sylvea Suydam, to enjoy after a tour in the labyrinth of young art. The annual exhibit is a showcase of contemporary professional artists. Gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays, noon to 4 p.m., Oct. 5 through Oct. 27. Visit facebook.com/30under30exhibit or exeterarts.org. Pictured, a painting by KOU.

Fri., Nov. 30. Reception on Fri., Nov. 2, 5-8 p.m. Awards at 6 p.m. Visit nhartassociation.org or call 431-4230.

• **"TOMORROW'S MASTERPIECES"** on display Oct. 4-Dec. 2 at Hopkinton Historical Society, 300 Main St., Hopkinton. Call 746-3825.

• **GARY HAVEN SMITH** shows "Reflections" at McGowan Fine Art (10 Hills Ave., Concord) Oct. 9 through Nov. 9, with opening reception Oct. 12, 5-7 p.m. Free. Call 225-2515 or visit mcgowan-fineart.com.

In the galleries

• **"TOSSED AND FOUND"** exhibition of found object art by Kim Cunningham will be on view in the Daniels Room at the Hancock Town Library (25 Main St., Hancock, 525-4411) through Oct. 4 during regular library hours.

• **ANCIENT ENIGMA** Symposium at Andres Institute of Art (98 Route 13, Brookline, 673-8441) features art by Amgalan Tsvegmid, Isidore Batu Siharulidze, Hoa Bich Dao and Nikolay Stefanov Stoychev. Open through Oct. 7 at Brookline Town Hall (22 Bond St., Brookline).

• **"CREATIVE ENCOUNTERS"** exhibit at the Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion (375 Little Harbor Road, Portsmouth) through Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.,

Wed.-Sun. Hours are 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Wed.-Sun.; weekends only. Visit wentworthcoolidge.org or call 436-9889.

• **ADELAIDE MURPHY TYROL'S** "Prey and Predator" exhibit shows at McGowan Fine Art (10 Hills Ave., Concord), which runs through Oct. 7. Free. Call 225-2515 or visit mcgowan-fineart.com.

• **"THE OTHER EYE" EXHIBITION** at The Gallery (100 Market St., Portsmouth) runs through Oct. 11 and features NH, Maine and Massachusetts artists. Traditional work, featuring seacoast painter Patricia Kaufman.

• **ANNUAL OUTDOOR JURIED SCULPTURE EXHIBIT** at Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden (236 Hopkinton Road, Concord, 226-2046, the-millbrookgallery.com) will run through Thurs., Oct. 18.

• **IMAGINATION EXHIBIT** at Soo Rye Art Gallery (11 Sagamore Road, Rye) through Oct. 19.

• **RALPH STONE JONES** shows his work at the hargate Gallery at St. Paul's School (325 Pleasant St., Concord) through Oct. 20. Call 229-4644.

Oct. 20. Call 777-3461 or email gallery@exeter.edu.

• **ROSES FROM CONCRETE: ENTREPRENEURSHIP OF URBAN STREET CULTURE** exhibit at Southern New Hampshire University McIninch Art Gallery (2500 N. River Road, Manchester, 629-4622, snhu.edu/art) through Oct. 26.

• **JANE MARTIN AND SUSAN PRATT-SMITH** show contemporary quilt and dichroic glass jewelry at Epsom Public Library (1606 Dover Road, Epsom), respectively, until Oct. 27. Visit epsomlibrary.com or call 736-9681.

CLASSICAL LISTINGS

Concerts

• **SYMPHONY NH** concerts at the Keefe Memorial Auditorium (117 Elm St., Nashua) on Sat., Oct. 6; Sun., Oct. 21; and Sat., Nov. 17. Call 595-9156 or visit symphonynh.org.

• **UNH CONCERT BAND** on Tues., Oct. 9, at 8 p.m., in Johnson Theatre of Paul Creative Arts Center in Durham. Free. Call 862-2404 or visit unh.edu/music.

• **UNH WIND SYMPHONY CONCERT** on Wed., Oct. 10, at 8 p.m., in the Johnson Theater of the Paul Creative Arts Center (30 Academic Way, Durham). Free. Call 862-2404.

• **FREESE BROTHERS BIG BAND WITH AMANDA CARR** plays on Wed., Oct. 10, at 7:30 p.m. at the Concord Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord). Visit walkerlecture.org or freese-brothersbigband.com.

• **MARY GATCHELL AND BAND CONCERT** at the new Leddy Center at Verdant Pastures, Ladd's Lane, Epping, on Fri., Oct. 12, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18. Visit leddycenter.org or call 679-2781.

• **NEW HAMPSHIRE PHILHARMONIC** on Sat., Oct. 13, at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester). Tickets are \$12 to \$50. Holiday Pops concert on Sat., Nov. 24, at 7:30 p.m. Visit nhphilharmonic.org.

• **THE SWINGLE SINGERS** perform at the Paul Creative Arts Center's Johnson Theatre (30 Academic Way, Durham) on Sun., Oct. 14, at 7 p.m. They'll play music by Mumford and Sons, Bjork, the Beatles, Bach and more. Tickets are \$30. Visit unharts.com or call 862-7222.

• **SARA CASWILL TRIO** at Johnson Theater at the Paul Creative Arts Center (30 Academic Way, Durham) Mon., Oct. 15, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8. Visit unharts.com or call 862-7222.

• **PROJECT TRIO** chamber music ensemble plays at Colby Sawyer Center Theatre (541 Main St., New London) on Tues., Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10. Visit colby-sawyer.edu/tickets or call 526-3670.



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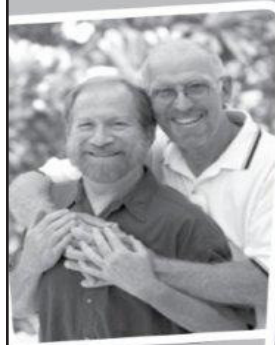
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Get Listed

From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE Welcome to chunking season

Engineers gather to make pumpkins fly

By Rick Ganley
news@hippopress.com

Massive cannon. Three-story-high steel and timber-frame machinery. Teams of men (and women) checking and re-checking every detail. A palpable tension in the air.

All for the express purpose of throwing a pumpkin as far as possible.

True story: Last fall, I attended my first — and to date only — pumpkin chunking event. The two giant Rube Goldberg contraptions were impressive. However, things began to go wrong quickly. There were multiple delays, followed by misfiring. One machine never got off a shot. Finally, the whole event came to a halt after only the third pumpkin of the day took flight. Seems the safety officials were not impressed with the fact it went nearly straight up into the sky, falling back to earth — where the crowd of spectators was gathered.

A reminder of the unpredictability of these awesome machines. Still, it's an awesome sight for those who witness it. It's also an obsession for those who participate.

Pumpkin chunking, as the sport is known (oh, yes, they consider it a sport), is every bit as technical as NASCAR, tactical and brutal as football, and requires the back team the size of a major league baseball club. Especially if you want to compete at the level of Brian Labrie.

Labrie is captain of the Nashua-based Team American Chunker. Since 2009, he has been obsessed with building an air cannon and competing at the World Championship Pumpkin Chunking

Association's annual event in Delaware. Team American Chunker has come a long way in a short time; last November, their second year in the competition, their machine threw a pumpkin 4,325 feet, coming within four feet of the championship.

"It might as well have been a mile. It was devastating beyond the word. If you knew the effort, the sweat and the blood that went into this," Labrie said.

What exactly does it take to build a massive machine, tow it to Delaware and launch a piece of fruit nearly a mile? Chunkers say a single-minded obsession helps; so does a team of engineering types (many have fabricating backgrounds), access to a full machine shop, thousands of dollars and, above all, lots of time.

Jay Goodell, another New Hampshire chunker, says it helps not to have a family competing for attention. Between the two teams he is a part of, Goodell says there are upwards of 60 people who head down each year, but during the months of building and test firing that lead up to the competition, nights and weekends are spent with a core group that aren't married with children — yet.

"We're all heading that way, though, so it will be interesting to see what happens in the future."

Trebuchets, catapults and air cannons, oh my

There are several categories of pumpkin chucking machines. Goodell and his team have been perfecting a trebuchet called Launchness Monster for four years now. Although they lack the ultimate distance of the



American Chunker,
Photo courtesy Brian Labrie

massive air cannon class, he says he finds the medieval devices fascinating. Launchness is 35 feet tall, 40 feet long and 30 feet wide. In the past two years, Launchness placed in the top 10 for trebuchets, but a bad year for pumpkins made for big disappointment. In 2011, the team managed just one shot that counted, a 1,200-footer. Each team gets just one shot that counts per day over the three-day event — and Launchness Monster blew up one pumpkin on launch, and broke down in another attempt. The same thing happened with the second machine, a catapult called Chunk Norris.

"It was a really disappointing year" Goodell says.

The dangerous type

What type of person spends hundreds of hours and thousands of dollars for the chance to get three shots at throwing a pumpkin on a frozen corn field in Delaware? Brian Labrie offers his take:

"Well, first of all, it takes a little of OCD... I'm the type of guy that when I leave the house in the morning, if the magazine is crooked on

Where to watch the pumpkins fly

Want to see some pumpkins fly but can't head for Delaware?

Here are some events in the area that feature the fine art of chunking pumpkins.

- Saturday, Oct. 6, and Sunday, Oct. 7, get your chance to chunk

for charity at the **Milford Pumpkin Festival** in Milford from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. See www.milford-pumpkinfestival.org.

- Sunday, Oct. 7, **American Chunker** will be at Trombley Farm in Milford for a little target practice from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Saturday, Oct. 13, from noon to 2 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 14, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m., catch pumpkin catapults at the **Giant Pumpkin Weigh-Off and Regatta** in Goffstown.

- Sunday, Oct. 21, **American Chunker** will be at Apple Hill Farm in Concord. See www.applehillfarmnh.com.

the coffee table it must be straightened out. It takes that attention to detail to build the level of machine that we currently operate."

Team American Chunker has 45 people, including a meteorologist. They hold regular team meetings where they go over test launch video and strategy.

"It's very similar to Bill Belichick reviewing film every Monday morning after the game," Labrie says. When pressed for some of the specific details Team American Chunker has learned from all of this, including the ideal air pressure their cannon

CHILDREN & TEENS Events

- **TOT TIME** at Meredith Public Library (91 Main St., Meredith), Friday, Oct. 5, 9:30-10:30 a.m., Friday, Oct. 12, 9:30-10:30 a.m., and Friday, Oct. 19, 9:30-10:30 a.m. For kids up to 3 years old, but older kids are welcome. Call 279-4303 or visit meredithlibrary.org.
- **KIDS DAY** at Blockbuster Video (50 Storrs St., Concord), on Sat., Oct. 6, 1-5 p.m., and 581 Second St., Manchester, 10 a.m. Check out games at

this circus-themed event celebrating the release of *Madagascar 3*. No cost to attend. Call 223-9876.

- **NATURE JOURNALS** at Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Route 123, Sharon), Sat., Oct. 6, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Workshop for teenagers to create an artistic journal with a nature theme. Class is \$72. Call 924-7256, email register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

- **HALLOWEEN SPECIAL** at Sharon Arts Exhi-

bition Gallery (30 Grove St., Peterborough), Sun., Oct. 7, 7-9 p.m. Listen to folk versions of Halloween songs. Admission is \$5. Call 924-7676 or visit www.sharonarts.org.

- **STAR WARS CELEBRATION** at Kelley Library (234 Main St., Salem), Wed., Oct. 10, at 6:30 p.m. Make your own light saber and construct a paper X-wing fighter or tie fighter. For ages 6-10. Registration is required. Call 898-7064 or visit www.kelleylibrary.org.

- **LOVELY LEAVES** at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester) Wed., Oct. 10, 9:30-11 a.m. and 12:30-2 p.m. Learn about why leaves change colors and make a leaf-related craft. Cost is \$5 with registration required. Call 626-3474 or visit amoskeagfishways.org.

- **CHILDREN OF THE LEAVES** at the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness), Wed., Oct. 10, 10-11:30 a.m. For ages 5 and younger, learn

about fall leaves, make a leaf craft and discover animals that live under the leaves. Cost is \$9. Call 968-7194 or visit www.nhnature.org.

- **SOCKTOBERFEST** at Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford) Thurs., Oct. 11, 3-4:30 p.m. For grades 6-12. Participants will create animals out of socks. Kids provide the socks and the library will provide all other materials. Call 673-2408 or visit www.wadleighlibrary.org.

- **HAUNTED HOUSE** at Mel's Spooky World (454 Charles Bancroft Hwy., Litchfield), Sun., Oct. 14, Oct. 21 and Oct. 28, noon-4 p.m. Kid-friendly haunted house for ages 13 and younger. Cost is \$5 for children and one adult. Cost is \$5 for additional adults.

- **DECORATED PUMPKIN CONTEST** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua). Contest for ages 2-12. Bring decorated but not carved pumpkins to the library through Fri., Oct. 19. Pumpkins will be

uses, Labrie declined to elaborate: "There are certain things that we try to protect in order to keep the competitive edge."

Labrie says not every one of the teams that compete is this obsessed. In fact, Jay Goodell says part of the attraction for many chunkers and spectators is the atmosphere — something akin to a Phish concert. "It is like one big party in some ways. It's a lot of hard work, and it's a lot of time and money, but it's a very social camaraderie type thing. Obviously, I'm interested in the engineering ... but some are just groupies that are there to see what's going on."

Brian Labrie says it attracts all types: "It has guys that are serious like us, and it has guys that are just down there to have a good time and drink a few beers, and it has everything in between."

Thanks to coverage on the Discovery and Science channels, Pumpkin Chunking has become a big spectator sport as well. In a bid to counter traditional Thanksgiving football programming, the cable networks have aired highlights of the Championship each year. (This year's airs at 8 p.m., Thanksgiving evening.) In 2010, they claimed 4 million people tuned in to watch these people and their creations lob a white Lumina or la Estella pumpkin as far as possible. Attendance to the three-day event is way up as well, with tens of thousands making the annual trek. Numbers like that are encouraging to Goodell, who spent a lot of his childhood taking things apart and reverse engineering everything he could get his hands on. When he saw that backyard tinkerers like him were building giant contraptions — and having people coming to see them — he knew he wanted to be a part of it. — "That's why I ended up getting drawn into it." He started chunking pumpkins for charity at the Milford Pumpkin Festival in 2005. "I don't know if it's the area or because it's made it to TV, but no one seemed to question the absurdity of it."

Making fruit fly

Of course, the sheer scale of these devices is thrilling to anyone who witnesses them. There's an eerie silence and tension build-up as safety parameters are checked and

re-checked. There's a countdown. Then the frightening sound of massive loads of potential energy being released into a single point. Elation — or disappointment — follows.

"We work all year for this. It's not like you have 16 games and you can afford to blow one... this is all or nothing," Labrie says.

When I ask Labrie if he ever really relaxes and enjoys it, he answers, "I'd like to sit here and tell you honestly that I go down there and have a good time, and it's fun, and we meet a lot of good friends — and we do, and it is fun — but I can tell you that it is stressful for me as the team owner and captain."

As a member of a relatively young team, Goodell says it will be interesting to see how they can keep up their enthusiasms — and finances — as the competition grows more sophisticated. "Certainly, I haven't committed in the hundreds of thousands of dollars; at this point, probably, ten thousand," he says.

Other teams have spent much more: American Chunker is said to have spent \$100,000 perfecting their air cannon. That kind of investment has Labrie feeling even more determined.

"Now we've talked a big game for two years and haven't delivered... now I'm up against it. Now I've got to prove that we can win," he says.

Jay Goodell, meanwhile, will bring Launhness Monster, his trebuchet, one more time to Delaware in November. Even with improvements and refinement, he's worried that bigger machines in the class will make it harder for it to compete. Still, he's happy to be there.

"You know, there's no financial incentive whatsoever, no prize money. Everything they take in down there goes to charity, which is nice. I actually like the competition structure in that way. I think it's a good thing to have it solely for bragging rights," he says.

They may get to brag, we may get a thrill, and some young budding engineer may be inspired.

Rick Ganley is host of NHPR's Morning Edition as well as an occasional writer and farmer. A version of this story is also slated to air on NHPR.

displayed for voting Oct. 20-27 and can be taken home on Oct. 30.


- **CLASSIC OUTDOOR GAMES AND PARENTS' MOVIE NIGHT** at Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Fri., Oct. 12, 6:30-8 p.m. Kids will play outside while parents watch *Mother Nature's Child: Growing Outdoors in the Digital Age*. Kids will then make a craft while parents discuss the film. Cost is \$5 with preregistration required. Call 626-3474 or visit www.amoskeagfishways.org.
- **GHOST ENCOUNTERS** at Canterbury Shaker Village (288

Shaker Road, Canterbury), Fri., Oct. 12, and Sat., Oct. 13, with tours leaving each date at 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Along the way, visit with six characters that will tell stories of their meetings with ghosts in the village. Cost is \$12 for adults and \$6 for ages 6-17. Call 783-9077, ext. 230, or visit www.shakers.org.

- **COSTUME SWAP** at the Stonyfield Visitors Center (10 Burton Drive, Londonderry), Sat., Oct. 13, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Swap lightly used Halloween costumes and items. The event will also feature yogurt samples, games and Touch-a-Truck. Early-

bird swap is Fri., Oct. 12, 10-11 a.m. Call 437-4040.

- **NH TECHFEST** at Windham High School (64 London Bridge Road, Windham), Sat., Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Learn about the technology-driven careers of the future and check out the trebuchet contest and a smartphone app battle of the bands. Admission is free. Visit www.nhtechfest.org.
- **LEAF PEEPERS** at Kelley Library (234 Main St., Salem), Thurs., Oct. 18, at 3:30 p.m. Part of the Exploring Art Series for kids in grades 2 through 5, learn about and create art using leaves. Registration is required. Call




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Pumped for Pumpkin Fest

Music, games, and this year a motorcycle show

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

Though it cannot be officially confirmed, it's probably safe to say that the Milford Pumpkin Festival is the only venue that has hosted both a wedding and a pumpkin catapult. Now in its 23rd year, what started as a fundraiser to restore the town hall auditorium has grown into a widely anticipated event that has been around for a full generation of families.

This year the festival will be Friday, Oct. 5, Saturday, Oct. 6, and Sunday, Oct. 7, and will feature two stages of music and entertainment, a Saturday night talent show, a haunted trail, a motorcycle show and a costume contest for dogs. Tracy Hutchins, the executive director of the Milford Improvement Team, which runs the festival, said that each year it gets a little bit bigger.

"People plan family reunions around the festival and kids come home from college for it,"

Hutchins said. "People have family photos from the Pumpkin Festival from 20 years ago."

Because the festival began as a local fundraiser, Hutchins said, the organizers want to keep Milford and the surrounding area in mind when putting the festival together each year. One of the new events on this year's schedule is a custom and vintage motorcycle show that Hutchins said should garner interest from the strong biker community in town.

She said it is not uncommon on a Sunday morning to see motorcycles parked all around the downtown oval, so the motorcycle show was a logical addition.

"Motorcycles and bikers are very important to the Milford economy," Hutchins said. "There are a great many businesses, we feel, in Milford that bikers tend to support."

Chop Shop Cycles (7 Amherst St., 672-5619) is helping to organize the show, which will award trophies to winners in the custom

bike and vintage bike categories. Zach Densmore, owner of Chop Shop cycles, said anything from 1984 or earlier will be considered vintage and it will be \$15 to register one motorcycle and \$10 per bike for those registering multiple bikes.

Densmore said his hope is that this first show will be a strong starting point to expand the show in the future.

"A lot of bikes ride through here, and there is a lot of motorcycle history in Milford," he said.

Hutchins said one of the weekend's more popular events is the Pumpkin Festival Talent show, which this year will be Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Amato Center for the Performing Arts (56 Mont Vernon St., Milford), at 8 p.m. With about 20 acts taking the stage, Hutchins said the show is a perennial sell-out and is a great opportunity for residents to see what their neighbors can do.

"We have some people who have auditioned in other years that have returned and we also will have a lot



No shortage of pumpkins during the Milford Pumpkin Festival. Courtesy photo.

of new people," she said.

But most importantly, Hutchins said that what started as an effort to make improvements in the community continues to be an event that brings the town together and shows off everything it has to offer.

"The stores downtown go all out and decorate their store fronts for the festival," Hutchins said. "They take care of the decorations around the Oval and it really showcases Milford at its best."

Milford Pumpkin Festival

Friday, Oct. 5, from 5 to 8:45 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6, from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 7, from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Milford Oval

Admission: Free, but bring money for vendors and food. Talent show tickets are \$8 for adults and \$5 for kids 12 and under.

More: Detailed schedule at www.milfordpumpkinfestival.org.

898-7064 or visit kelleylibrary.org.

Sports

• **ALL-AGES ARCHERY** with the New England School of Archery and Supplies. Classes are available for ages 7 and older throughout the state; equipment provided. Call 672-2845 or email nesainc@aol.com.

• **AMHERST SOCCER CLUB** (P.O. Box 853, Amherst, amherstsoccerclub.com) offers soccer programs for children age 3-10. There are also limited spots in boys' and girls' U11-U14 teams. Email registrar@amherstsoccerclub.com.

• **ARCHERY LESSONS** offered by Concord Recreation, for beginners and advanced players on Friday evenings or Saturday afternoons for seven-week sessions at East Concord Community Center, Concord. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **BEDFORD BASKETBALL LEAGUE** (P.O. Box 10351, Bedford, 488-1161, bedfordbl.com) offers recreational teams for boys and girls in grades 2-8 and travel teams for boys and girls in grades 3 to 8 along with boys' and girls' biddy basketball for grades 9-12. Children must try out for travel teams.

• **BIDDY BASKETBALL** regis-

tration through Nashua Parks and Recreation. Girls and boys junior biddy registration deadline is Fri., Oct. 19, girls and boys biddy registration deadline is Fri., Oct. 12, girls senior biddy registration deadline is Fri., Nov. 2, and boys bantam registration deadline is Fri., Nov. 2. Registration fee is \$20. Visit www.gonashua.com or call 589-3370.

• **FIELDHOUSE SPORTS** (12 Tallwood Drive, Bow, 226-4646, fieldhousesports.com) offers skills clinics for children 6 and older.

• **MANCHESTER EAST SOCCER LEAGUE** (mesl.org) has teams from U6 to U19.

• **MANCHESTER NORTH SOCCER LEAGUE** (mnsll.org) has teams from U6 to U19.

• **NH GRIZZLIES** AAU baseball program offers full winter training for 13s. The three-month session includes pitching and hitting during a two-hour weekly practice with former college coaches at a private facility. Slots are limited. Email nhgrizzlies@comcast.net. See nhgrizzlies.com for information.

• **NH SPORTSPLEX** (68 Technology Drive, Bedford, 641-1313, nhsportsplex.com) offers soccer for children 18 months and older (including competitive soccer U8-U16), youth flag football and lacrosse. Call for prices and

details.

• **NLP ELITE ATHLETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM** Next Level Performance (31 S. Commercial St., Manchester, nlpspeed.com) offers in classes strength, speed, agility, flexibility and injury prevention for athletes

ages 11 and older on Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri. Call 627-7500.

• **PRESCHOOL OPEN GYM** at the Green Street Community Center (39 Green St., Concord) for ages 18 months-4 years old and parents. Various sports are offered and parent participation is required. The class meets every Tuesday through Oct. 23 from 9:30 a.m.-10:15 a.m. Cost is \$15 for residents and \$25 for non-residents. Call 225-8690 or visit www.concordnh.gov/recreation.

• **SOCCER DIVISION I** by Concord Recreation for grades 1-2, on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 5-6:15 p.m. Cost is \$54. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER DIVISION II** by Concord Recreation for grades 3-4. Games will be played on Tuesday/Thursday and Saturday. Cost is \$54. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER DIVISION III GIRLS** by Concord Recreation

for grades 5-6. Cost is \$54. Games will be played on Tuesday/Thursday and Saturday. Open to the public, but space is limited. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **SOCCER FUNDAMENTALS** offered by Concord Recreation for ages 4-6 on Saturdays, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Cost is \$54. Open to Penacook residents. Call 225-8690 or visit ci.concord.nh.us/recreation.

• **TRI-TOWN ICE ARENA** (311 W. River Road, Hooksett, 485-1100, tri-townicearena.com) offers learn to skate for 3-year-olds and older, learn to play hockey for 4- to 9-year-olds, and public skating.

Teen/tween events

• **PLAY DATE NH** invites youth age 12-18 to learn, play and enjoy new card, strategy and board games at area libraries. Semi-professional gaming geeks will be on hand to mentor new players in classic and modern games. See playdaten.com. Game days are hosted on the second Saturday of each month, noon to 4 p.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson, rodgerslibrary.org, 886-6030).

• **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-18 at the Hollis Social Library on the last Monday of every month, 2:30-4:15 p.m.

• **ANIME CLUB** for ages 12-17

SILK ROAD



Learn the history of the Silk Road at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 9, at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire (6 Washington St., Dover). Siblings Yasmine, 12, and Anthony, 15, will present *Aurora Over the Silk Road*, a hands-on workshop that is currently touring the country. The presentation will feature puppets, dances, live music and a chance for kids to hold a silkworm. The show is included in the price of admission, which is \$9 for adults and children older than 1, \$8 for seniors. Children younger than 1 are admitted free. Call 742-2002 or visit www.childrens-museum.org. Pictured: Yasmine performing a folk dance as part of *Aurora Over the Silk Road*. Courtesy photo.

at Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Discuss anime or manga series, participate in games and activities, and

display your anime sketches in the teen room. Call 589-4612 or visit tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **ANIME CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Man-

BATS



Learn about the Granite State's species of bats on Friday, Oct. 12, from 7 to 9:30 p.m., at the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn). As part of the center's Nature Café series, this presentation will explain where bats can be found and how homeowners can help protect them. Chris Bogard, a wildlife rehabilitator, will be speaking at the event. Admission is \$5 and refreshments will be served. Call 668-2045 to sign up. Photo by Susi von Oettingen of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

chester. Meets on the first and third Thursdays of each month. Open to grades 6-12. Play cards, watch movies, discuss favorite characters, and draw. Call Kate Norton at 624-6550, ext. 335, or email knorton@manchester.nh.gov for details

• **ANIME CLUB** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry) on Tues., Oct. 23, and Tues., Nov. 20, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Watch, draw, read and talk about anime. Call 432-6140 or visit www.derry.lib.nh.us.

• **ANIME/MANGA CLUB** at Rodgers Memorial Library (194 Derry Road, Hudson) meets on the third Monday of each month at 2:30 p.m. and the first Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. Call 886-6030.

• **BALLROOM DANCING** for ages 11-19 at Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., Manchester. To sign up, email qnctybalrm@aol.com or call 622-1500. Visit queencityballroomnh.com.

• **BOOK DISCUSSIONS FOR TEENS** at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on the last Tuesday of the month at 4 p.m. Each month will have a theme, but participants can choose the book. Call 589-4610, email teens@nashualibrary.org or visit www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **BOOKS AND BITES** Talk books and eat food at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on Tuesdays at 4 p.m. A new theme each week. Call 589-4610, email teens@nashualibrary.org or visit www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **CECILIA ENSEMBLE** High school-age section of the Peterborough Children's Choir is open to girls grades 9-12 who can meet

for practice Mondays 4-5:30 p.m. at Peterborough Unitarian Church on Main Street. There are requirements for singing ability and self-motivation. Contact Maria Belva at 924-2055 or mariabelva@gmail.com. pchoir.org.

• **CHICKS WITH STICKS BOOK CLUB** Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays, 3 p.m. in the AV Room. For grades 7 and up, this club invites participants to bring their current knitting projects, enjoy snacks and book discussions. New members and beginner knitters are welcome. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **COLLEGE ADMISSION ESSAY** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry) on Sat., Oct. 27, 1-2:30 p.m. Learn how to craft a strong college application essay. Call 432-6140 or visit www.derry.lib.nh.us.

• **E-READER/TABLET COZY** at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) on Tues., Oct. 16, at 4 p.m. Grades 6-12 can create a no-sew case for their personal device. Register at www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **FANTASY BOOK CLUB** held on the first Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollis.nh.us/library. For ages 8-13. For kids who love reading fantasy books about dragons, magic, the future and more. Free and open to the public.

• **GEEKS R US ANIME CLUB** for teens at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m. in the Keyes Meeting Room. Hang out and discuss your

favorite anime or manga series, games and activities. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **JR. FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY** Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, for grades 5 and up, on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 4 p.m. Children can help organize, plan and run special family, children's and summer reading programs. They can earn volunteer hours. Sign up at hollislibrary.org.

• **MONDAY NIGHT SCRABBLE** every week, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. Join young adults for some fun rounds of this classic word game. Invite a partner. Bring a Scrabble board, if possible.

• **NH INSTITUTE OF ART** (148 Concord St., Manchester, 866-241-4918, nhia.edu) offers classes for high school students college credit. Prices vary depending on type of class and materials needed.

• **TEEN ADVISORY BOARD** meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m., at Hollis Social Library, 465-7721, hollislibrary.org. For ages 13-18. Help the library plan programs, choose books and materials for teens, organize outreach, decorate the teen area, eat snacks and hang out with friends. Community service credit will be given.

• **TEEN COOKING CLUB** at Manchester City Library, 405 Pine St., Manchester, meets monthly on Wednesdays at 4 p.m. Teens ages 11-18 are welcome to learn the basics of cooking, make their favorite dishes and explore new types of food. All materials will be provided. Club meets in the Winchell Room. Call 624-6550.

• **TEEN MUSIC CLASSES** at Music Together of Milford, 102 Elm St., Milford, on Mondays, 7:30-8:30 p.m. Advanced and intermediates welcome to acoustic music class led by Amy Conley. Cost is \$10/session. Adults also welcome. Call 249-9560 to register. Visit amyconleymusic.com.

• **TEEN PIZZA & PAGES** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, meets monthly on Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. For grades 5 and up. Enjoy pizza while discussing a book. Copies available on the teen display. Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **TWEEN TUESDAYS** every Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the meeting room at the Hollis Social Library. Choose from Fantasy Book, Game Club, Craft Days, Book Buddies, or do all four. Fantasy Book Club is on the first Tuesday of every month and designed for kids who love reading fantasy books. Books provided at each meeting for the following month. Game Club is



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Power steering

Warner siblings train oxen to compete

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

Patience and trust are two of the most important aspects of training animals, according to Madi Courser of Warner. But the 12-year-old isn't talking about standard household pets. She, her brother Cy, 13, and friend Jacob Fisher, 11, have been training steers for much of their lives.

The steers and the siblings have been making their way throughout New England this fall, competing in oxen competitions and showing what six years of hard work and dedication can do. This weekend, they will have a homecoming of sorts, competing in the Warner Fall Foliage Festival.

The cattle begin their training when they are calves and Madi said the best way to train them to

a level where they can compete in oxen competitions is to start them off with simpler tasks and gradually work in more difficult challenges.

When they are ready, Madi, Cy and their steers travel throughout the Northeast and compete at venues including the Big E in Springfield, Mass., the Deerfield Fair and the Hopkinton State Fair.

Madi said she starts by leading the steers around on a halter. Then, they graduate to a yoke. Once their strength is developed even further, Madi said they can even drag empty ATV tires.

"You gradually start gaining their trust and doing harder stuff," she said.

All three have developed strong relationships with their steers, but it takes hard work to gain the animals' trust. Jacob said he has been kicked and horned by steers he has worked with, but eventually they will warm up to people and the tasks they are trained to

do. In addition to taking on various tasks, the steers' appearances are essential to showing.

"You need to wash the cattle and polish their hooves," Jacob said while preparing his steers to be shown at the Deerfield Fair on Friday, Sept. 28.

Cy said he got started training steers a couple years before his sister, but did not find it quite as much fun as playing team sports. For a while, Cy said, he preferred his baseball glove over the oxen competitions, but after seeing how much fun Madi was having with her steers, he decided to give it another try.

Both Coursers said they both enjoy the traveling they do to participate in the competitions. Though Cy said they are typically among the youngest competitors at the various fairs, it's a good opportunity to meet with other steer and ox trainers and see different parts of the country.

"It's fun because most of the fairs we go to are a ways away and because we get to see friends," Cy said. "If you travel to different fairs, you get to see people from all around."

The fairs the Coursers attend provide a variety of events for the siblings and their steers to



Madi Courser prepares to yoke her steers at the Deerfield Fair on Friday, Sept. 28. Cory Francer photo.

try. Typically, however, there are obstacles the steers will need to traverse, varying degrees of weight they will need to pull and at many of the fairs the appearance and cleanliness of both the handler and the steers are judged.

The steers are trained and shown in pairs and Madi said she feels even more of a connection to her steers because each year, they take a weekend and make their own yoke for the pair to use. This way, Madi said, she understands the ins and outs of the equipment her steers are in and can maintain more control.

"We make two or three different yokes," she said. "We cut them out, sand it, get it smooth and paint it. It takes an entire

weekend to make and you can definitely appreciate what the bulls are in."

As she yoked her pair of steers at the Deerfield Fair, Madi said they have grown to not mind the practice as it has become a daily routine.

With the Warner Fall Foliage Festival around the corner, Cy said he is excited to perform in front of his hometown crowd.

"I like it because we don't have to wake up so early to get on the road," he said. "I like showing and being able to look at stands say, 'Oh, hey, so and so is here.'"

Warner Fall Foliage Festival

When: Friday, Oct. 5, from 6 to 9 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 6, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday, Oct. 8, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Where: Main Street, Warner
Admission: Admission is free, but bring money for parking, vendors and food.

Oxen Competition

When: Friday, Oct. 5, from 6 to 9 p.m., and Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: Simonds Elementary School playground, 14 Church St., Warner

on the second Tuesday of every month and includes Wii, board games and snacks. Craft Days are the third Tuesday of every month. Book Buddies is the fourth Tuesday of every month and includes planning story times and crafts for preschool children. Read at after-school storytime and family pajama time

• **WII DAYS FOR TEENS** at Hollis Social Library, every other Friday, 3 p.m., for ages 12-18. Snacks and drinks provided. Sign up at the circulation desk.

• **SAT ESSAY PREP** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry) on Sat., Oct. 13, 1-3 p.m. Learn how to best approach the essay portion of the SAT. Call 432-6140 or visit www.derry.lib.nh.us.

• **READ-A-THON** at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua) Fri., Oct. 12, 6-10 p.m. Students in grades 6-12 can raise money for charity with 10 cents being raised for every minute spent reading. Register online at www.tinyurl.com/nplteen.

• **TEEN READ WEEK: IT CAME FROM THE LIBRARY**

at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua). During the week of Oct. 14-20, grades 6-12 can have all fines erased by bringing their library card or ID to the library. Fines for lost or damaged items will not be erased.

• **TEEN WRITERS GROUP** at Derry Public Library (64 E. Broadway, Derry), bi-weekly. Check calendar for times. Learn about story development and listen to others' stories. Call 432-6140 or visit www.derry.lib.nh.us.

• **TEEN WRITING CLUB** at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford. Free-write for the first half-hour, then read aloud (you can bring in anything you've been working on at home for this part). Call 673-2408 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.

• **WRITER'S BLOCK** is a group of aspiring writers who meet up every Saturday in the Library Meeting Room at the Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis. Call 456-7728 after 5 p.m.

• **YOU'RE FIRED** (Bedford, 641-FIRE; Concord, 226-FIRE; Salem, 894-KILN; yourefirednh.com) Friday Night is Teen Night and teen studio fees are \$4 (half off).

CLUBS

Hobby

• **ANIME AND MANGA CLUB** meets at Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson. Meetings will involve book discussions, anime viewing, workshops. Visit rogerslibrary.org or call 886-6030.

• **APPLE CLUB** Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua, meets the last Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. This club will provide local user support for Apple products. User meetings feature product demos and discussions of technology as it relates to Apple computing. Visitors are welcome. Visit web.me.com/applepower.

• **BROWN BAG BOOK CLUB** at Manchester City Library (405 Pine St., Manchester) meets on the last Tuesday of the month from 12:15-1:30 p.m. Call 624-6550.

• **NASHUA CHESS CLUB** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua), Saturdays, 2-4 p.m. Call 589-4600.

• **GENEALOGY CLUB** at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson, second Friday of each month, 1:30 p.m. Trade tips and techniques with others interested in family research and learn about genealogical resources located in the library. Visit rogerslibrary.org or call 886-6030, ext. 4522.

• **MANCHESTER RICHELIEU CLUB** meets the first and third Wednesday of every month at the Chateau Restaurant at 6:30 p.m. If you speak French, enhance your enjoyment of the language by becoming a member of this club. Call Walter Parenteau at 964-6925.

• **MANCHESTER STAMP CLUB** meets on the fourth Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. at Villa Crest Nursing Home, 1276 Hanover St., Manchester. Call Bob Dion at 625-5082.

• **NASHUA CAMERA CLUB** meets Mondays at 7:30 p.m. at

the Nashua Public Library. Each month, there are three topics chosen for competitions. Entries can be submitted either digitally or as prints. Visitors and new members are always welcome. See nashuacameraclubnh.org or contact Dave Marden at 305-7036 or dmarden1@myfairpoint.net.

• **NH FLYING TIGERS** radio control flying club meets the last Wednesday of every month at the B-St. Flying Field, 1 B St., or Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 W. Broadway, Derry. Visit newhampshireflyingtigers.org.

• **PAREI ENERGY EXCHANGE** to discuss renewable energy. Visit plymouthenergy.org or call 536-5030.

• **PHOTOGRAPHERS FORUM** camera club meets at Bishop Guertin High School in Nashua, on the first and third Monday of each month. This informal club offers educational programs for all ability levels and the opportunity to meet people with similar interests. Attend your first meeting free. Thereafter, dues are \$30 per year for

individuals, \$50 for families; full-time students pay \$15. See photographersforum.org.

• **RADIO CLUB** Radio Club meets first Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at First Church of Nashua, 1 Concord St., Nashua. Go to n1fd.org.

• **SOUTHERN NH FLYING EAGLES** club meets at their flying field in Merrimack throughout the summer. Meetings are open to the public. Visit snhflyingeagles.org.

• **SOCRATES CAFÉ** second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at Starbucks, 1111 S. Willow St., Manchester. Contact Marc Berthiaume at Socratescafenh@comcast.net.

• **SOUHEGAN VALLEY BRIDGE PLAYERS** 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Wadleigh Memorial Library, Milford; newcomers always welcome.

• **SOUTHERN NH RADIO CONTROL CLUB** on the second Tuesday of the month at Wagner Field on Old Landfill Road, Hudson. Visit snhrcc.org or email Wally Adasczik at president@snhrcc.org.

REGATTA



Once a year, giant pumpkins are turned into boats and sailed down the Piscataquog River. The Goffstown Giant Pumpkin Regatta is returning to the water on Sunday, Oct. 14, at 3 p.m. After the pumpkin festival and Giant Pumpkin Weigh-off on Saturday, Oct. 13, see which community members have the most sea-worthy pumpkin. Visit the village throughout the weekend for events. Call 497-9933. Pictured: Goffstown police chief Patrick Sullivan maneuvers his boat at a previous Pumpkin Regatta. Courtesy photo.

• **UNITED DIVERS OF NH** the third Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the YMCA in Manchester (30 Mechanic St.). Visitors are welcome. Visit udnh.org.

CRAFTS

Fairs/Exhibits

• **LINCOLN FALL CRAFT FESTIVAL** at the Village Shops and Town Green on Main Street, Lincoln. On Sat., Oct. 6, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Sun., Oct. 7, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., and Mon., Oct. 8, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Crafts, food, music and art will highlight the weekend event. Admission is free. Visit www.castleberryfairs.com.

• **CRAFT FESTIVAL ON LAKE WINNIPESAUKEE** at the Mill Falls Marketplace (312 DW Highway, Meredith), Sat., Oct. 13, 10-5 and Sun., Oct. 14, 10-4. Check out crafts, food and music. Free admission. Visit www.castleberryfairs.com.

• **ANNUAL CRAFT FAIR** at Laconia High School (345 Union Ave., Laconia), Sat., Oct. 13, 9 a.m.-3 p.m. The fair will feature more than 65 booths and will benefit the LRGHealthcare Breast Health Program through Lakes Region General Hospital. Admission is free.

• **HARVEST ARTS AND CRAFTS SHOW** at the Radisson Hotel (11 Tara Blvd., Nashua), Sat., Oct. 20, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Music and a variety of art will be on display. Admission is \$2.50 (free for children under 14). Call 528-4014 or visit www.joyces-craftshows.com.

• **HOLIDAYS AROUND THE WORLD CRAFT EXHIBIT** at the League of NH Craftsmen (49 N. Main St., Concord), Fri., Oct. 5-Wed., Dec. 12. Call 224-3375 or visit www.nhcrafts.org.

Knitting

• **PUMPKIN HAT CONTEST** at the Spotted Sheep Yarn Shoppe (9 Church St., Goffstown). Knit or crochet a pumpkin hat to enter. Entries are due on Sat., Oct. 13. Registration is required. Call 660-1115 or visit spotted-sheep yarnshoppe.com.

• **BROOKLINE PUBLIC LIBRARY** (16 Main St., Brookline, 673-3330, brookline.nh.us) has a knitting, crocheting and cross-stitch group that meets Mondays at 6 p.m. The group is informal and drop-ins are welcome.

• **DROP-IN KNITTING CLUB** Hollis Social Library, 2 Monument Square, Hollis, every Tuesday, 3-4 p.m. Call 465-7721. Meet, mingle and trade yarns with local knitters. Compare patterns, sharing techniques and trading tips. Drop in, no signup required.

• **DROP-IN STITCHERS** Fridays, 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson. Work on knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching or any other needlework project with company, and pass the time while sharing ideas and techniques for future work. Call 886-6030.

• **THE ELEGANT EWE** (71 S. Main St., Concord, 226-0066, elegantewe.com) offers a variety of knitting classes and workshops, as well as classes in felting and spinning.

• **FRIDAY NIGHT KNITTING CLUB** every Friday 6-10 p.m. at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com). Open project, no fee. Bring an existing project or start a new one. Call 505-4432.

• **HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY** (31 Mount Saint

Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org) hosts a learning-to-knit circle every Friday, 1-2 p.m., in the adult room of the library. Tea and coffee are served.

• **KELLEY LIBRARY** (234 Main St., Salem, 898-7064, kelleylibrary.org) has a knitting circle on Mondays at 7 p.m. and Wednesdays at 1 p.m. The weekly gatherings are open to Salem knitters of all skill levels. Members answer questions, offer tips and share techniques. No registration is required. Crocheters are welcome, too.

• **KNIT 1, CROCHET 2** drop-in stitch-fests held at Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-2408, the first and fourth Mondays of each month, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Bring a project and be inspired. Beginners will be able to get help selecting a project and the necessary supplies. There won't be formal instruction, but members of the group help each other. Tea is served.

• **KNIT WITS** meets at the Chester Public Library, 3 Chester St., Chester, the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Work on a craft, chat with others and share knowledge. This group is open to all who like to sew, crochet, knit and/or stitch. Contact the library at 887-3404.

• **KNITTING CLUB** every Tuesday at the Hollis Social Library, 3-4 p.m. in the library meeting room. Meet, mingle and trade yarns with local knitters. Have fun comparing patterns, sharing techniques and trading tips on stitches, sweaters and mittens. Drop in, no signup required.

• **KNITTING CLUB** every Friday, at 11 a.m., at West Manchester Library, 76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560. Both experienced and novice knitters are invited to attend. No registration required.

• **NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY** (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4600, nashualibrary.org) hosts a knitting group every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

• **NEEDLES AND SHUTTLES** meets in The Fiber Studio, Foster Hill Road, Henniker. This informal group welcomes new and experienced knitters to share skills and conversation. Bring a knitting project. Call 428-7830.

• **NESMITH KNITTERS** meets on the first and third Thursdays of the month from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Nesmith Library (8 Fellows Road, Windham, 432-7154, nesmithlibrary.org). All skills and ages welcome.

• **NEW ENGLAND FABRICS** (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for the current schedule.

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Quality time: from the eye-roll to ‘When can we go?’

There are more options for bonding than driving to the mall

By Rebecca Sherman
listings@hippopress.com

When our kids are little, it's easy to find family activities that make them happy and that most of the time make us happy, too. Fast forward to the tween and teen years and you may already have experienced that moment when your child walks five feet ahead, or behind, you at the mall. Or you've seen that horror-struck look on your child's face as a group of friends approaches and he or she is stuck being seen with ... well, you. It's not impossible to still have some bonding time with your tween or teen. It may just take some creativity, some scheduling and willingness from parent and child to entertain the idea that hanging out together can be fun.

Invite them to play like a little kid again. Warning: You may be required to act like one, too. Race Go-Karts at Mel's Funway Park, 454 Charles Bancroft Highway (Route 3A) in Litchfield. Single Go-Kart rides cost \$8 each, or get five rides for \$35. Mel's also has batting cages, mini golf and laser tag. Now that fall is here, Mel's hosts that bastion of potential teen terror, Nightmare New England, which offers six haunted houses. Visit www.spookyworld.com to purchase tickets, or call 424-7999. See www.melsfunwaypark.com.

Share one of your interests, like movies. Can't get your teen to be seen with you at the local cinema? Try an independent

film at Red River Theatres, 11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4697, www.redrivertheatres.org. Upcoming movies at the nonprofit theater include *Wild Horse Wild Ride*, for those tweens who can't get enough of horse training. Regular admission to evening shows is \$9, students \$7.50. Matinees are \$7 for all ages.

Try something new together. The Currier Art Center offers art workshops for a parent and child, preteen or teen, including "Bangles and Rings in a Day" on Dec. 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. for parents and teens (\$110 each), and "Printmaking: Engraving" on Dec. 1 and Dec. 8 from 1 to 4 p.m. (\$110 each). The Currier Museum of Art also offers Family Saturdays, the second Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a guided family gallery walk at 11:30 a.m. and hands-on art activity. There's a different theme each week, such as Printmaking on Oct. 13, Creating in Clay on Nov. 10 and Patterns on Dec. 8. Museum admission is free every Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon. The museum is at 150 Ash St., Manchester, 669-6144. Workshops are held in the nearby Art Center at 180 Pearl St. See www.currier.org.

Get scared together. Join author Roxie Zwicker on a ghost tour adventure in the reportedly haunted city of Portsmouth. The nearly two-hour tour includes historic locations such as New Hampshire's oldest burial ground, the Point of Graves. Tours are offered at 6:30 p.m. on Fridays, Oct. 5, Oct. 12, Oct. 19 and Oct. 26, with a spe-



Trying something new together, like making art, can be a great bonding experience with your tween or teen. Photo courtesy of the Currier Museum of Art.

cial late-night walk on Oct. 26 at 9:30 p.m. Tours meet at the North Church, 355 Spinney Road, Portsmouth, and end at the Point of Graves on Mechanic Street. Cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for children 12 and younger, advance reservations strongly recommended. See www.newenglandcuriosities.com.

Explore nature. For example, Pawtuck-away State Park has many trails leading to "special points of interest, including a

mountaintop fire tower, an extensive marsh where beavers, deer and great blue herons may be seen and a geologically unique field where large boulders ... were deposited when glacial ice melted near the end of the Ice Age," according to the park website. The park is open full-time through Oct. 30, weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to sunset and weekends from 8:30 a.m. to sunset. Admission is \$5 per adult and \$2 for children age 6 to 11, free for children younger than 6 and state residents age 65 or older. The park is accessible year-round, though not staffed out-of-season. It's at 128 Mountain Road, Nottingham, 895-3031. A trail map is available at www.nhstateparks.org.

Give back. New Hampshire Food Bank volunteers logged more than 20,000 hours in 2011, which according to the charity's website, is the equivalent of \$443,107. Ideas for helping out include volunteering to sort food in the warehouse, holding a food drive, bringing in food donations — packaged macaroni & cheese is the featured donation to bring for October. According to www.nhfoodbank.org, the minimum age for volunteers is 12 during the week and 6 on weekends, when heavy machinery isn't usually present. All volunteers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent. Contact Nikki McCarter, volunteer coordinator, at nmccarter@nhfoodbank.org to find out about opportunities. The Food Bank is at 700 E. Industrial Park Drive, Manchester, 669-9725.

and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com) on the second and fourth Saturdays of the month from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$40. Call 505-4432.

• ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL in Nashua is looking for volunteers to help knit or crochet comfort shawls for patients who may be seriously ill, undergoing medical procedures, emotionally or physically traumatized, seeking hope and healing or grieving. The need for shawls is ongoing and frequently the supply becomes depleted. Contact the Spiritual Care Department at St. Joseph Hospital at 882-3000, ext. 67800. You will receive more information and a brochure with both knitting and crocheting instructions.

• STITCHING SOCIALS at the Spotted Sheep Yarn Shoppe (9 Church St., Goffstown), every Sunday, 1-3 p.m. Knit, crochet and talk with other crafters. Admission is free. Call 660-1115 or visit www.spottedsheep yarnshoppe.com.

• YARN AND FIBER CO. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, 505-4432, yarnandfiber.com) offers classes in knitting, as well as Friday night knitting club and classes focused on a single piece.

Quilting

• COCHECO QUILTERS GUILD SHOW at the Rochester Community Center (150 Wakefield St., Rochester), Sat., Oct. 13, and Sun., Oct. 14, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is \$6 for one day and \$9 for both days. Children 12 and under are free. E-mail QuiltShow@CochecoQuilters.org.

• AMETHYST ROSE QUILT SHOP (37 Crystal Ave., Unit 5, Derry, theamethystrosequilts.com, 489-8161) offers open quilt times, project-specific classes and more.

• AMOSKEAG QUILTERS GUILD meets at Emmanuel Baptist Church, 14 Mammoth Road, Hooksett, on the third Thursday of each month, at 7 p.m. Email more.info@amoskeagqg.org or visit www.amoskeagqg.org.

• BEDFORD FRIENDSHIP QUILT GUILD meets the third Tuesday of each month from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the fellowship room of the Bedford Presbyterian Church to make quilts for children in Families in Transition. Call Pam Mikkola at 472-9225 or Lois Tourangeau at 424-0417.

• THE CAPITAL QUILTERS GUILD (capitalquiltersguild.org) holds meetings the second Friday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Havenwood Heritage Heights in Concord. The Guild also offers classes.

• THE CHESTNUT QUILTER (167 Londonderry Turnpike, Hooksett, 647-8458, thechestnutquilter.com) offers Monday and Wednesday morning classes from 9 a.m. to noon that cost \$15 per session.

• GIRLS NIGHT OUT at Pine Tree Quilt Shop (224 N. Broadway, Salem, pinetreequiltshop.com) on Saturdays 5-10 p.m. Cost is \$15 per month. Call 870-8100.

• HANNAH DUSTIN QUILT

GUILD meets at Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave., Hudson. Meetings are on the first Monday of the month from October through June, and on the second Monday in September. Go to hannahdusting.org or call Elyse at 635-7436.

• KEARSARGE QUILTERS meet on the second Tuesday of each month, 1-3 p.m., at Main Street Book Ends (16 E. Main St., Warner, 456-2700, mainstreetbookends.com)

• NASHUA SEW AND VAC (228 DW Hwy, Nashua, 888-2757, nashuasewandvac.com) offers classes in quilting and sewing, including classes for children.

• NEW ENGLAND FABRICS (55 Ralston St., Keene, 352-8683, newenglandfabrics.com) has offered classes in sewing, knitting, quilting and more. Call for current schedule.

• NH STATE QUILTERS ASSOCIATION (nhsqa.org) offers membership for \$10 per year.

• NH QUILTERS' EMPORIUM (Pennichuck Square on

Route 101A, 707 Milford Road, Merrimack, 880-0300, nhq.com) offers classes in quilting.

• PEGGY ANNE'S QUILTING AND SEWING 57 N. Main St., Concord, 223-2344, peggyannes.com offers classes in quilting, sewing and more.

• PINE TREE QUILT SHOP (224 N. Broadway, Salem, 870-8100, pinetreequiltshop.com) offers quilting classes for all levels of ability. See website for a complete list.

• STITCHING UP THE WORLD is a nonprofit group of volunteers who knit, crochet or sew items for charities on the third Thursday of each month, 7-9 p.m. at Smyth Public Library (55 High St., Candia). Visit candiawomansgroup.org or call 587-0603.

Scrapbooking & paper

• FREE CROP at Scrappin' Soul Sisters (7 Perely St., Concord, scrappinsoulsisters.com) Tuesdays 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• MARY'S MEMORIES (12 Clark Road, Milford, 249-8978,

marysmemories.com) offers individual lessons, one-session workshops and a basic scrapbooking class.

• NH SCRAPBOOK CABIN 294 Route 101 at Greeley Point in Amherst (next to Salzburg Square), nhscrapbookcabin.com, 769-3333, offers a variety of scrapbooking classes.

• PAPER TECHNIQUES workshops will be held at Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road (Route 102), Hudson, on the first Thursday of the month, 2:30-4 p.m. or 7-8:30 p.m. Learn how to make things out of paper. Projects include scrapbooking, card-making, stamping, quilting and decoupage. Preregister at 886-6030.

• THE PAPER TREE (865 Second St. in Manchester, 624-8800, thepapertree.net) offers one-day classes for different paper art projects and aspects of scrapbooking as well as open studio time. Daytime and weekend classes available.

• SCRAPBOOK ISLAND (15

All Apples, All the Time

• Fall is in full swing, and the Seacoast will be celebrating with the 28th annual **Apple Harvest Festival** in downtown Dover, Saturday, Oct. 6, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Check out the four stages of entertainment, homemade food and kids' activities throughout the day. Admission is free. Call 742-2218.

• The **Hollis Apple Festival** will be Sunday, Oct. 7, from 2 to 4 p.m. in Hollis's Monment Square. Taste all sorts homemade baked goods, enjoy kids' activities, take in a concert from the Hollis Town Band and watch runners in a half-marathon. Admission is free. Visit holliswomansclub.org.

• Have a fun day and help benefit the Salvation Army on Sunday, Oct. 7, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the **Sullivan Farm Apple Fest**, 70 Coburn Ave., Nashua. Explore the farm with hay rides, pony rides and cow train rides. Then paint a pumpkin and get your own face painted. Top the day off with apple pie and ice cream. All proceeds benefit the Salvation Army. Call 889-5151, ext. 14, or email maryann.picard@use.salvationarmy.org.

Halloween is coming

• Get into the Halloween spirit a little early on Sunday, Oct. 7, at the Sharon Arts Exhibition Gallery (30 Grove St., Peterborough). From 7 to 9 p.m., listen to **Halloween songs and scary stories**. Performers include Dan Blakeslee as Dr. Gasp and Shea Vacarro. Admission is \$5. Call 924-7676 or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• Watch out for flying pumpkins! Trombly Gardens (150 N. River Road, Milford) is once again readying the American Chunker for its third annual **Chunkin in the Gardens** event on Sunday, Oct. 7, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. In addition to the airborne pumpkins, check out music, games, a hay

ride and a corn maze. Admission is free, but bring money for vendors, rides and the corn maze. Call 673-0647 or visit www.tromblygardens.com.

Movies, songs and stories

• It's **kids' day** at Blockbuster Video in Manchester (581 Second St., 666-4411) and in Concord (50 Storrs Road, 223-9876), on Saturday, Oct. 6. The circus-themed event is in honor of the release of *Madagascar 3* and will provide games and face-painting for kids. There is no cost to attend. The Manchester event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and the Concord store has its event scheduled for 1 to 5 p.m.

• Head back in time to when **barbershop music** was king. The Concord Coachmen will perform at the Bedford Public Library (3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford), Sunday, Oct. 7, at 2:30 p.m. Spend the afternoon listening to the group's *a cappella* takes on classic songs, which may include Disney tunes and patriotic songs. Admission is free, but come early because seating is limited. Call 472-2300 or visit www.bedford.lib.nh.us.

• Start your Saturday with the first **family drop-in storytime** at the Goffstown Library (2 High St., Goffstown), on Oct. 6, at 10 a.m. Families can stop by the library for stories and activities. Registration is not required, and the series is scheduled to continue Saturday mornings throughout the fall. Call 497-2102 or visit www.goffstownlibrary.com.

• The first of the **family film series** at Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua), is Saturday, Oct. 6, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Watch the tale of *Dr. Seuss' the Lorax* and get a modern take on the children's classic. Kids 7 and younger must be accompanied by an adult. Call 589-4646 or visit www.nashualibrary.org.

W. Broadway, Derry, 421-2881, derryscrapbookisland.com) offers various classes along with Ladies Layout Night Club on the first Wednesday of the month. Visit the website for a full list of classes.

• **SCRAPPIN' SOUL SISTERS** (7 Perley St., Concord, 717-7136, scrappinsoulsisters.com) offers classes and crops, which are gatherings where scrapbookers get together to work on projects and share ideas (crops feature food and run from 6 p.m. to midnight every other Friday).

• **STAMPING MEMORIES** (96 DW Hwy., Belmont, 528-0498, nhstampingmemories.com, info@nhstampingmemories.com) offers classes on a variety of kinds of card-making.

• **TALK PAPER SCISSORS** (Willow Tree Plaza, 575 S. Willow St., Manchester, 669-8009,

talkpaperscissors.com) offers introductory scrapbooking classes, as well as classes on specific aspects of scrapbooking (collage-making, art journaling) and on crafts such as card-making and lampshade-decorating.

• **THURSDAY NIGHT SCRAPPERS** at Pine Tree Quilt Shop (224 N. Broadway, Salem, 870-8100, pinetreequiltshop.com) on the third Thursday of the month 5:30-8:30 p.m. Get help and work on an unfinished project or learn a new technique each month. Cost is \$12 per session.

Other

• **BASKET-WEAVING CLASS** at the League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Retail Gallery, 98 Main St., Nashua, with Ruth Boland on Thursdays (6:15-9:15 p.m.) and Fridays (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.) year-round. Tuition is \$20 per

class. Students can choose from numerous skill-level appropriate projects and progress at their own pace with teacher assistance. All levels from beginner to advanced are welcome. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **LADIES NIGHT** You're Fired Studio (133 Loudon Road, Concord; 25 S. River Road, Bedford, and 264 N. Broadway, Salem, yourefirednh.com) on Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-9 p.m. Half-off studio fee for ladies. Adults only. Call 641-FIRE (Bedford), 226-FIRE (Concord) or 894-KILN (Salem).

• **WEAVING** Floor and Table Loom at the Yarn and Fiber Co. (11 Manchester Road, Derry, yarnandfiber.com) on Tuesdays 6:30-8:30 p.m. Six weekly two-hour sessions cost \$120. Looms are available for class use and to use at home. Call 505-4432.

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Is there hope for this stinky car?



Dear Tom and Ray:

I need your help. My car has an odor that will not go away. My car, now known as "The Farm," smells like a barn. Basically, my brother's dog (her name is Drama) squirted her anal gland (yes, it's disgusting) on my Prius's fabric back seat. The substance permeated several layers of seat fabric. By the way, this was three years ago. I've had the car cleaned many times. They've shampooed the seats, done some sort of ozone cleaning, sprayed weird animal-scent removers, etc., and the smell hasn't gone away. The odor is so horrific that if I roll down the window and stop at a tollbooth or to pay a fast-food worker, the person literally flinches. Have you ever seen that "Seinfeld" episode about the car smell? Well, that's pretty much the situation I'm in. My mom thinks that if I change out the back seat, it will get rid of the smell. I think it's too late. Anything that is in the car for more than a few hours takes on that smell. If I'm in the car for several hours, I smell like the car. I think even if the seats are removed, the smell has become part of the interior's DNA and will never go away. It's horribly embarrassing! I can't let any-

one get in the car. Do you have any advice? Is there any cleaning substance you can recommend? Or should I cut my losses and trade it in, hoping the dealer has no sense of smell? Please help. — Joan

RAY: Wait until your dealer has a terrible cold, then go and trade it in.

TOM: I've had several cars like this, although not with this particular odor. Usually, it was mold. I'd have an old convertible, and the top would either leak or stop going up and down altogether. So I'd leave it down all summer (of course). The car would get wet, mold spores would be fruitful and multiply, and before I knew it, I was driving a biohazard level 3 containment zone.

RAY: Didn't help him much with dates. Although, on the plus side, he never got asked to drive the carpool.

TOM: If you hadn't waited three years, I think you'd have a better shot at this. We spoke to our Car Talk veterinary consultant, Dr. Linda Siperstein, and she says that for dog anal gland odor, they use a product called A.O.E., made by Thornell. She says this can even be sprayed right on the dog's tailpipe if necessary.

RAY: Thornell also makes a similar product for carpets and upholstery called Dog Odor-Off. The company claims that it works even after the offending material has dried, but who knows? Or maybe you've tried it already and it didn't help.

TOM: I'd say you've got three choices now. One is to replace the back seat with one from a junkyard, and then do your best to treat the rest of the car with one of these dog-gland-specific industrial-strength odor fighters.

• INTRODUCTION TO NUNO FELTING at the New Hampshire Craftsmen Nashua Gallery (98 Main St., Nashua) on Sat., Oct. 6, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Learn the history of Nuno felt and create a scarf from the material. Class fee \$60 to register with a \$35 materials fee that is paid to the instructor. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **ENAMELING AND RESIN FOR JEWELRY** at Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Route 123, Sharon), Sun., Oct. 7, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Learn all the steps in enhancing jewelry with enameling powder and resin epoxy. Class is \$138. Call 924-7256, email register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **HOLIDAY BASKET WEAVE AFGHAN CLASSES** at Ace Ben Franklin (15 Freetown Road, Raymond). Six-week class beginning Tues., Oct. 9, through Tues., Nov. 13. Create an Afghan using holiday colors and a basket weave pattern. Cost is \$10 per class. Call 895-2370.

• **GLASS ON GLASS PANEL** at Kast Hill Studio (195 Kast Hill Road, Hopkinton) on Wed., Oct. 11, 6:30-9 p.m. Create a stained glass on clear glass panel that can be hung at home in a window. Class is \$45. Call 746-6745, email lizzvansaun@tds.net or visit www.kasthillstudio.com.

• **RESIN INLAY PENDANT** at the League NH Craftsmen (98 Main St., Nashua) on Sat., Oct. 13, 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Create a pendant to wear and enhance it with colored resin. Class is \$40 upon registration with a \$35 materials fee due the day of the class. Call 595-8233 or email nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

• **BLOWING BETTER BUBBLES** at Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Route 123, Sharon), Sat., Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Learn about glass blowing through boro tubing techniques. Class is \$66 and has

a \$30 lab/materials fee. Call 924-7256, e-mail register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **MOSAIC FLOWER POTS** at Kast Hill Studio (195 Kast Hill Road, Hopkinton), Sat. Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., and Sun., Oct. 14, 9-11 a.m. Enhance a flower pot with mosaic art and learn about steps along the way. Class is \$45. Call 746-6745, email lizzvansaun@tds.net or visit www.kasthillstudio.com.

• **BETTER FALL LANDSCAPES** at the Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Route 123, Sharon), Sat., Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Learn how to improve your landscape photography techniques. Class is \$90. Call 924-7256, email register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **PAINTING IN WATERCOLOR** at the Sharon Arts Center School of Art & Craft (457 Route 123, Sharon), Saturday, Oct. 13, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Beginner course for water color painters. Class is

\$65. Call 924-7256, e-mail register@sharonarts.org or visit www.sharonarts.org.

• **EMBROIDERY POTLUCK** at Franklin Pierce University (5 Chenell Drive, Concord), Sat., Oct. 13, at 10 a.m. Susan Poirier will provide a presentation on embroidering different styles of trees. Bring a dish to serve about 15 people at lunch. Call 577-9784.

• **STAINED GLASS CLASSES** through the League of NH Craftsmen, held at Renaissance Glass Works (99 Factory St. Extension, Nashua). Beginner classes are held Saturdays, Oct. 20 through Nov. 17, 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m., and intermediate classes are Thursdays, Oct. 18 through Nov. 15, 6:30-9 p.m. Beginner class is \$250 with a \$15 to \$30 materials fee. Intermediate class is \$150 with an approximately \$25 materials fee. Call 595-823 or e-mail nashuarg@nhcrafts.org.

RAY: You're right that the smell is now in the headliner, the other seats, the carpet and who knows where else? But if that is a secondary odor, you might be able to tamp it down to a merely nauseating level.

TOM: On the other hand, after soaking in this aroma for three years, I'm not optimistic. So the second option is to just trade in the car. Sure, the dealer will notice the smell when he checks it out, but maybe he'll think he can treat it. Maybe he can. It's certainly cheaper for him to replace seats, carpets and headliners than it is for you.

RAY: Your third option is a fire. Even that might not get rid of the smell, but it will at least mix it with some more pleasant smells, like burnt rubber and plastic. Good luck, Joan!

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Dear Tom and Ray:

I am hopefully starting a retail job at an auto-parts store as a part-time associate/part-time driver. Could you please provide a primer on what every parts monkey should know? (I use the term "parts monkey" in all its warmth and mirth, and mean to offend no one.) I have been a fan of your two guys for nearly 20 years, and I find your radio program both informative and entertaining. — Brad

RAY: It seems to me the best parts guys are guys who have actually worked on cars before.

TOM: The reason is that when you go in the back room and you pull a set of pads for a Ford F-150, and you see that they're only two inches long, you'd know right away that those are the wrong pads and that somebody stocked them in the wrong place.

RAY: So you'd be able to correct the

error before you sent the customer away to go home, jack up his car, remove the wheels and brake pads, and then realize that he's got the wrong pads.

TOM: Or before you sent the wrong parts out to a shop that's got a car on a lift, in pieces, and a customer reading a 12-year-old People magazine in the waiting room for what's going on four hours.

RAY: And, unfortunately, the only way to get that kind of experience is to work on some cars. So if you're really serious about moving up in the parts world, you'd probably be well served by volunteering or getting a lackey job at a shop one or two mornings a week. Then you'd get to know what the different parts for different cars actually look like, and you'd be able to spot obvious errors.

TOM: And when you're delivering parts, our best advice is not to dawdle. When a shop calls for a part, that often means they have a car up on a lift, taking up space, with other cars waiting to get in and owners waiting for them.

RAY: So come in, hustle the parts off your truck, get your signature and get going. That'll make a better impression than regaling the mechanics with your review of the latest episode of "Downton Abbey." Good luck, Brad.

Get more Click and Clack in their new book, "Ask Click and Clack: Answers from Car Talk." Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com. (c) 2012 by Tom and Ray Magliozzi and Doug Berman. Distributed by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

DANCE

• **Arthur Murray Dance Studio** 99 Elm St., Manchester, 624-6857, learntodancetoday.com

• **Bliss Healing Arts Center** 250 Commercial St. # 2007, 624-0080, blisshealing.com

• **Dance International Studio** 83 Hanover St., Manchester, 858-0162, importers-exporters.com/DIS.htm

• **Kathy Blake Dance Studios** 3 Northern Blvd. in Amherst, 673-3978, kathyblakedances-studios.com

• **Krystal Ballroom Dance Studio** 352 S. Broadway, Salem, 870-9350, krystalballroom.com

• **Let's Dance Studio** 5 North Main St., Concord, 228-2800, letsdancenah.com

• **Mill-A-Round Dance Center** 250 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-3880, millaround.com

• **Miss Kelsey's Dance Studio** 2626 Brown Ave, Manchester, 03103. 603-606-2820,

mkdance.com

• **Paper Moon Dance Center** 515 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-1100, papermoondance.com

• **Queen City Ballroom** 21 Dow St., Manchester, 622-1500, queencityballroomnh.com

• **Royal Palace Dance Studio** 167 Elm St., Manchester, 621-9119, royalpalacedance.com

• **Senior Activity Center** 70 Temple St., Nashua, 889-6155

• **Steppin' Out Dance Studio** 1201 Westford St., Lowell, 978-452-1111, steppinoutdance-lowell.com

Ballroom classes & dances

• **ARGENTINE TANGO** at Queen City Ballroom (21 Dow St., second floor, Manchester) on Sundays. Randy Avis teaches Beginning Tango 3-4 p.m., and Welcome Back to Argentine Tango runs 4:30-5:30 p.m. Practice sessions 4-4:30 and 5:30-6



and continuing all the way to the turn of the century. It's part of a children's series.

As with everything, condition is important. I know that this is from 1898, but even with that taken into consideration, it would be considered on a scale of 1 to 10 a 4 for overall condition. I am not sure how any book that was read and loved could make it through time without lots of wear. But when determining a value it's important to have it in the best condition as possible.

Because these were children's books and there were lots of them made, the value is only in the \$20 range.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (www.fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser, an instructor and a licensed auctioneer. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or e-mail her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

Hi Donna,

I have a Chatterbox book from 1898 with beautiful color illustrations. Are these common or of any value?

Thanks,
Barbara

Barbara,

Your book is one of many made by Estes & Lauriat from Boston starting in the 1800s

p.m. Available for 1:30-2:30 p.m. by special requests. \$12 drop-in rate, \$5 for Practica only. Call 547-0402 or e-mail randy@itan-gonh.com.

• **ARTHUR MURRAY DANCE STUDIO** (99 Elm St., Manchester, 624-6857, arthurmurray.com) offers classes in ballroom and a variety of other styles. There are also classes specifically for wedding instruction. Email info@amdsnh.com.

• **BEGINNER BALLROOM SAMPLER CLASSES** at the Queen City Ballroom Dance Studio (21 Dow St., Second Floor, Manchester), Sundays, 4-4:45 p.m. Learn steps of 12 different ballroom dances, which each class focusing on two dances. Cost is \$5 per person and new dancers take their first class free. No registration is required. Call 622-1500, e-mail QnCityBalm@aol.com or visit www.queencity-ballroomnh.com.

• **BALLET AND TAP** at Greet Street Community Center Dance Studio (39 Green St., Concord). For ages 2-7. Check www.ci.concord.nh.us/recreation for times and prices.

• **BALLROOM PARTY** Sunday nights 6-9 p.m. at Queen City Ballroom Dance Studio, 21 Dow St., 2nd floor, Manchester. These parties are beginner-friendly with mixer dances and light refreshments. Hardwood floor, recorded music, friendly crowd, smoke-and alcohol-free. Singles and couples welcome. Bring a change of shoes to protect the dance floor. Start any week, and get free

admission your first time. Costs \$9 per person. No preregistration required. Call 622-1500 or visit queencityballroomnh.com.

• **CHOREOGRAPHED BALLROOM LESSONS** at the Circle 9 Ranch, 39 Windmere Drive, Epsom, Thursdays at 7 p.m. Visit circle9ranch.com or call 736-9656.

• **FOX TROT AND WALTZ** Royal Palace Dance Studio on Thursdays, 6:15-7 p.m. is beginner foxtrot and 7-7:45 p.m. is intermediate waltz. Visit royal-palacedance.com or call 621-9119.

• **HUSTLE** at Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., 2nd floor, Manchester, every Monday night. Beginner class 6:45-7:30 p.m. and intermediate class 8:15-9 p.m. Costs \$10 per person per class. Singles and couples are welcome, as well as drop-ins. Call 622-1500, email QnCityBalm@aol.com or visit queencity-ballroomnh.com.

• **KATHY BLAKE DANCE STUDIO** (3 Northern Blvd., Amherst, 673-3978, kathyblake-dances.com) offers Latin, swing and ballroom dance classes as well as jazz, hip-hop, tap and other styles strictly for adults.

• **LET'S DANCE STUDIO** (5 Main St., Concord, 228-2800, letsdancen.com) has group classes, private lessons, practice sessions, monthly balls, workshops and wedding dance instruction. Dances taught include tango, waltz, foxtrot, hustle, salsa, merengue, swing, cha-cha and ballroom. Ballroom and

Argentine dancing every Thurs., 8-10 p.m., cost is \$5.

• **LONDONDERRY DANCE ACADEMY** (21 Buttrick Road, 432-0032, londonderrydance.com) Ballet, pointe, hip-hop, tap, jazz, contemporary, creative movement, pre-dance, yoga, body conditioning, and adult ballet. Home of the New England Dance Ensemble and the Triple Threat Theater Camp.

• **MILL-A-ROUND DANCE CENTER** (250 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-3880, mill-around.com) offers classes in line, round and square dancing.

• **NASHUA COMMUNITY COLLEGE** (505 Amherst St., Nashua, 882-7022, nashuacc.edu) offers classes for couple in ballroom, Latin, and waltz.

• **OPEN DANCE AND THEME BALL** hosted by Let's Dance Studio in Concord every Thurs., 8-10 p.m. Cost is \$5 per person per visit or advance payment \$45 for 3 months, with a free group class for a month. Parties and balls are free for first-time visitors, current group students and all private students past and present.

• **PAPER MOON DANCE CENTER** (515 DW Hwy., Merimack, 429-1100, papermoon-dance.com) offers group and private lessons, social dance parties and wedding dance instruction. Classes are offered in smooth, rhythm, club, standard and Latin dances. Dance parties are offered every Sat.

• **PAPER MOON DANCE CENTER** (Studios in Mer-

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INSIDE/OUTSIDE GARDENING GUY

Apples!

Easy to grow and delicious in pie

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

I read my first piece of propaganda when I was 8, maybe 9 years old. It was a biography of Johnny Appleseed. It was one of a series of library books, all with orange covers, large print, and just a few simple drawings. They were fascinating, every one of them. Johnny, I learned, was a happy-go-lucky sort who walked around America giving away apple seeds. Not so. Johnny was a businessman who sold apple seeds and seedlings so frontier folk could make hard cider and its distilled companion, applejack. Most of the apple trees back then were what we would call wild apples, those that we wouldn't consider good eating apples.

Here's my quick course on apples: Any named apple varieties today is genetically identical to all others of the same name. That's right. All Macs or Cortlands are the same, genetically, as all other Macs and Cortlands. Before you buy a tree, someone has grafted scions (living twigs) onto root stock to produce a tree that will give you tasty apples of a named variety. Some nurseries even sell trees with three or four different varieties grafted onto one tree.

The roots affect whether your tree is full sized, mid-sized or dwarf. Most new apple varieties — Macouns, for example — are hybrids developed by apple researchers, tested and then propagated by grafting — not by seed. So don't plant seeds from your favorite apple thinking the tree will be like the mother apple.

Apple trees are easy to grow. You should have one, or perhaps more. Not only that; one can grow good eating apples without using toxic chemicals, although most orchards use some chemicals to control apple scab and sometimes insect pests. Americans have grown very fussy about their food, demanding perfect fruit, unblemished by even a spot of blight, which makes the orchards spray. The home grower can eat organic fruit with a few small brown spots, or cut them out.

I recently visited Paul Franklin at his farm, Riverview Orchard, in Plainfield, N.H.; he has been growing apples for sale for more than 25 years and is a wealth of knowledge. One of my first questions to Paul was this: How do you know when an apple tree is ready to pick? It's easy, he said. Just cut open an apple and look at the seeds. If they are tan to dark brown, the apple is ready. Paul added that some apples resist coming off the tree, even when they are fully ripe while others are easy to pick even when still green.

What about that film often seen on apples? It's not a pesticide, Paul said, but Mother Nature at her best. It is a thin film of wax, which protects the apple. Polish it a bit, and the apple shines. Some apples have more wax than others.

This past spring many apple blossoms were



Apples. Henry Homeyer photo.

damaged by a period of unusual warmth that was followed by a hard frost. The frost damaged the opening buds, so many of us lost all or most of our apples. I live in a cold spot and lost all mine. Paul Franklin's orchard is near the Connecticut River, so the little bit of heat released by the water minimized his losses. If you are choosing a site to plant apples, remember that near the top of a hillside is a good spot. Cold air is dense, and tends to slide downhill. Often only a degree or two can make the difference between success and failure.

I asked Paul about his favorite apples. He said that Cortland and Honey Crips are two of his favorites. Honey Crisp is tasty and somewhat resistant to apple scab. Cortlands are great apples for both eating and making pies. Honey Crisp are great keepers — a customer of his picks a bushel of them, then stores them in a spare fridge for up to a year. If you do that, don't store other vegetables in the fridge because apples give off ethylene gas, which prompts other veggies to age and go past their prime.

If you planted an apple tree recently, be sure to protect the bark with a collar of quarter-inch hardware cloth (metal screening). An 18-inch square can be used to wrap around the base to keep meadow voles (voracious mouse-like creatures) from nibbling the bark in winter. If a vole eats bark all the way around a trunk it will kill the tree. Dig the screen in an inch to keep them from going under it. After 5 to 7 years the bark is thick enough that the hardware cloth is not needed.

What else can you do for your apple trees now? In order to minimize apple scab and other diseases, rake up the leaves under your trees. Scab overwinters on leaves. Mowing under trees helps, too, chopping up the leaves and helping them to break down. Young trees benefit by a little slow release organic fertilizer in the fall, but older trees do not need it.

So go pick some apples on a warm sunny fall day. Eat plenty, make a pie, save some for winter. And thank Johnny Appleseed — if you believe in the propaganda.

Henry Homeyer's website is www.gardening-guy.com.

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rimack, Nashua, Concord & Amherst, 429-1100, papermoon-dance.com). Beginner classes Saturdays at 10:30 a.m. and Tuesdays at 6:45 p.m.; \$50 for the month for unlimited group classes (includes all levels, 8 per week total).

- **PRACTICE PARTY** every Fri. at Royal Palace Dance Studio (167 Elm St., Manchester, 621-9119, royalpalacedance.com), open to the public from 7:45 to 9:30 p.m. Singles and couples are welcome.
- **ROCKINGHAM BALLROOM** (22 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket) offers ballroom dance night, line dance and couples dance lessons, country night and afternoon ballroom dance. Call 659-4410 or visit www.therockinghamballroom.com.
- **ROYAL PALACE DANCE STUDIO** (167 Elm St., Manchester, 621-9119, royalpalacedance.com) offers group lessons in salsa, Latin, ballroom, rhythm, smooth dances, hip-hop and aerobic dances along with private dance lessons.
- **SALSA** at Queen City Ballroom, 21 Dow St., Manchester. Club-style salsa classes with Masacote Entertainment are taught on Wednesday nights. The 45-minute classes are \$45 per person for the month or \$15 per person drop-in: Level 1 Salsa Partnering at 6 p.m., Level 1 Salsa Footwork at 6:45 p.m., Level 2 Salsa Partnering at 6:45 p.m., Level 2 Salsa Footwork at 7:30 p.m., Level 3 Salsa Footwork Challenge at 7:30 p.m., and Level 3 Salsa Partnering at 8:15 p.m. A new beginner series starts on the first Wednesday of every month. The Adult Performance Team meets at 9 p.m. Private lessons available. Call 617-875-9006 or email salsanewhampshire@gmail.com; visit SalsaNewHampshire.com. Call 622-1500 or e-mail QnCity-Balrm@aol.com or visit queencityballroomnh.com.
- **SAMBA AND TANGO** at the Royal Palace Dance Studio on Tuesdays, intermediate samba 7-7:45 p.m., and intermediate Tango 7:45-8:30 p.m.
- **SOCIAL DANCING** Paper Moon Dance Center sponsors dances at Kathy Blake Dance Studio (3 Northern Blvd, Amherst, 429-1100, papermoon-dance.com). Two rooms of ballroom, Latin and swing dancing the second and fourth Sat. of each month 8-10:30 p.m. Cost is \$10, includes light refreshments.
- **STEPPIN' OUT DANCE STUDIO** (1201 Westford St., Lowell, Mass., 452-1111, stepinoutdance-lowell.com) offers ballroom, swing, and salsa classes along with social dances and wedding dance instruction.
- **SWING DANCING** at the Royal Palace Dance Studio on Mondays at 7 p.m., visit [A photograph of a wolf standing in a snowy field, howling with its head tilted back towards a clear blue sky. The wolf's fur is a mix of grey and brown, and its tail is bushy. The background shows some bare trees and a bright sky.](http://royalpal-</div><div data-bbox=)

On Saturday, Oct. 13, at 1:30 and 3:30 p.m., visit Squam Lakes Natural Science Center (23 Science Center Road, Holderness), for Mission: Wolf. Get an up close look at a live wolf and learn about the lives of these animals. The wolves come from the Mission: Wolf Refuge in Colorado, which raises wolves and promotes education about wolves. Admission is \$12. Call 968-7194, e-mail info@nhnature.org or visit www.nhnature.org.

acedance.com or call 621-9119.

- **TANGO CLASSES** at the Mariposa (26 Main St., Peterborough, 924-4555, mariposamuseum.org) every Wed., 7-8:30 p.m.
- **WEST COAST SWING** on Tuesdays at Milly's Tavern, 500 N. Commercial St., Manchester, in the Function Room. Novice class 7-7:45 p.m., Intermediate class 7:45-8:30 p.m. Cost is \$12. Email annedfleming@yahoo.com.

Folk Classes and Dance

- **ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCE** at Presidential Oaks (200 Pleasant St., Concord), Sun., Oct. 14, 5:30-7:45 p.m. Beginners and singles are welcome to attend. Cost is \$8. Call 934-2543 or visit www.nhecds.org.
- **CONTRA DANCE** at the East Concord Community Center (18 Eastman St., Concord), Sat., Oct. 20, 8-11 p.m. Beginners, singles and families are welcome. Admission is \$7, \$5 for ages 15-25, free for ages 14 and under. Call 225-4917 or visit homepage.nhvt.net/dwh/contra.htm.
- **AFRICAN DANCE** and drumming workshop taught by Theo Martey on Fridays, 6:30-7:30 p.m., at Murphy's Gym, 163 Lake Ave., Manchester. The Akwaaba Ensemble features West African drumming and dance. Cost is \$13; purchase a card for \$72 for six weeks. Drums provided if you don't have them. See akwaabaensemble.com or call 224-5582.
- **BEGINNER LINE DANC-**

WOLVES

ING with Ginger Kozlowski on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, 7-8 p.m. Tuesday classes at old Bedford Town Hall (3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford), Wednesday classes at Hooksett Town Hall (35 Main St., Hooksett) and Thursday classes at Mill-A-Round Dance Center (250 Commercial St., Manchester). Session runs Oct. 30-Nov. 17. Drop-ins always welcome. Email apljacker@gmail.com or visit www.linedancemax.com.

- **BEGINNERS LINE DANCING** at the Circle 9 Ranch, 39 Windymere Drive, Epsom, Tuesdays at 7 p.m., Visit circle9ranch.com or call 736-9656.
- **LINE DANCING** at Derry Parks & Recreation (31 E. Broadway, Derry). Beginner/Intermediate class Fridays, 10-11:30 a.m. Cost is \$5. Email sharondobbie@aol.com or call 329-5904.
- **LINE DANCING** on Sundays, 4-5 p.m. at Starr King Fellowship (101 Fairgrounds Road, Plymouth); Mondays, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Ashland Booster Club (20 Highland St, Ashland); Tuesdays, 1-2 p.m. at Meredith Community Center (1 Circle Drive, Meredith); Fridays, 6-7 p.m. at TapPLY Thompson Center (30 N. Main St., Bristol); and Saturdays, 11 a.m. to noon at Holderness Town Hall. All classes are \$5. Proceeds go to Starr King Fellowship. Call 536-1179.
- **BORDER CITY SQUARES** offers square dance lessons every Mon., 7-9 p.m. First night is free.

ADVENTURE

A photograph of a person running through a muddy trail during a race. The person is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, dark pants, and a backpack. They are in a crouched position, splashing through the mud. The background is slightly blurred, showing other participants and spectators.

The water slides may be closed for the season, but Liquid Planet Water Park (446 Route 27, Candia) is open for a day of fun for the second NH.com Adventure 5K. On Saturday, Oct. 13, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., make your way through this course filled with mud and obstacles. Proceeds from the race will go to Moore*Mart, a local charity that supports troops and children around the world. Registration on the day of the race is \$100 cash only. Teams of five or more can register for \$85 cash per person. On Friday, Oct. 12, from 3 to 8 p.m., visit the water park for the Beer and Fear bib pick-up party and try a Shipyard Pumpkinhead, the official beer of the race. Try the Escape Velocity Zip Line for \$5 and explore Haunted Acres, where registered racers plus four friends can receive half off the ticket price. Call 594-6423. Pictured: A runner makes her way through the mud at the first Adventure 5K in April at McIntyre Ski Area. Courtesy photo.

Dance is held at Pilgrim Congregational Church, 4 Watson St., Nashua. See bordercitysquares.freesevers.com or call Cheryl Imbody at 438-2366.

- **HAPPY TIME SQUARES** meets every Wednesday in the Community Room of the Rochester Community Center, 150 Wakefield St., Rochester. Members range from 8 to 80, and anyone interested in learning about Contemporary Square Dance is encouraged to attend. See happy-timesquares.org.
- **GREEK FOLK DANCING** Sunday evenings at St. George Greek Orthodox Community Center in Manchester. Open to all. Call 497-4581.
- **LINE DANCING** on Mondays at the Nashua Activity Center, beginners 4:45-5:45 p.m., improvers 7-8 p.m. Cost is \$50, runs for eight weeks.
- **LINE DANCING** on Wednesdays at Campbell High School (Highlander Way, Litchfield), 7-8 p.m., contact Campbell HS Community Program at 546-0300.
- **LINE DANCING** on Thursdays at the Windham Senior Center (2 N. Lowell Road, Windham), 9:45-10:45 a.m., for 4 weeks. Call the Windham Rec. Dept. at 965-1208.
- **LINE DANCING** on Mondays and Thursdays at the Nashua Senior Center. Absolute Beginners, Beginners and Improver classes offered. Contact CJ at nhgrizzlies@comcast.net for info, times and fee.
- **LINE DANCE AND COUPLES DANCE LESSONS** at Rockingham Ballroom (67 Ash Swamp Road, Newmarket),

Thurs., Oct. 4, 6-9:30 p.m., Wed., Oct. 10, 6:15-9:30 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 11, 6-9:30 p.m., Wed., Oct. 17, 6:15-9:30 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 18, 6-9:30 p.m., Wed., Oct. 24, 6:15-9:30 p.m., Thurs., Oct. 25, 6-9:30 p.m., Wed., Oct. 31, 6:15-9:30 p.m. \$8 per lesson and \$10 for entire nightly session. Call 659-4410 or visit www.therockinghamballroom.com.

- **LINE DANCING LESSONS** at the Mill-a-Round Dance Center. Beginner, easy, intermediate, available on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays. Cost is \$8. Visit millaround.com for specific dates and times.
- **RHYTHM LINE DANCING** at Royal Palace Dance Studio on Tuesdays 6:15-7 p.m. Visit royalpalacedance.com or call 621-9119.
- **SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING** on Wednesdays 7-9 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 215 Main St., Nashua (email nashuascd@comcast.net); and second and fourth Fridays at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 69 Washington St., Keene (call Bill Schenck, 352-6968). Visit rscdsboston.org for a complete list.
- **WORLD DANCE** on second and fourth Thursday of each month, 7-9 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Milford. All dances taught each night. Call 487-2732 or email mary-floyd62@comcast.net.

Other

- **STUDIO 550 DANCE CLASSES** at Studio 550 (550 Elm St., Manchester) held throughout the week, including

belly dance, hula hoop, spin poi and yoga. Visit 550arts.com or email info@550arts.com.

- **ADULT CLASSES** in tap and strength training at Allegro Dance Academy (100 Factory St., Nashua, allegrodance.com).
- **BEGINNER TAP** for ages 30+ at the Acting Loft, 516 Pine St., Manchester, Thursdays 7-7:45 p.m. Basic tap steps, as well as short combinations and routines. Ongoing cost is \$12 per week. Drop-ins are welcome with 24 hours' notice. Call 666-5999 to register or visit www.actingloft.org.
- **INTRODUCTION TO DANCE** "It's Never Too Late to Dance" for ages 30 and older at the Acting Loft, 516 Pine St., Manchester, Thursdays 6-7 p.m. A low-impact dance class. All are welcome, whether you are a first-timer or want to brush up for auditions, feel more confident about your skills or just have fun. Ongoing cost is \$16 per week. Drop-ins are welcome with 24 hours' notice. Call 666-5999 to register or visit actingloft.org.
- **NASHUA BALLET THEATRE DANCE COMPANY** (36 Arlington St., Nashua) offers ongoing classes from beginner to pro in ballet, pointe, jazz, modern and tap. Call 889-8408 or visit nbtde.com.
- **POLE AND EXOTIC DANCE** for women 18 and older at Pole Bliss, 250 Commercial St., Manchester, 624-0080, polebliss.com. Four- and six-week sessions, intro classes, workshops and dance parties. Pole, chair, burlesque, ballet and belly dancing.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Workshops, seminars & events

- **OPEN HOUSE** at All Generations Home Care's new Adult Day Program (460 Amherst St., Nashua), Sat., Oct. 6, noon-4 p.m. Facility tours and staff members will be available to provide information on this program that provides a break to caregivers. Call 589-9570.
- **ARTHRITIS WORKSHOP** at Hooksett Public Library (31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett) Wed., Oct. 10, at 6:30 p.m. Learn how to manage arthritis and decrease pain. Free event and open to the public. Registration is requested. Call 485-6092 or visit www.hooksettlibrary.org.
- **THE JOY OF GETTING THINGS DONE** at Amherst Town Library (14 Main St., Amherst), on Thurs., Oct. 11, 7-8:30 p.m. Learn life management systems from Linda King. Free and open to the public, but registration is required. Call 673-2288, email library@amherst.lib.nh.us or visit www.amherst.lib.nh.us.
- **WOMEN'S SPIRIT CIRCLE** at the Women Supporting Women

Playing in the mud

This race is all about fun — and dirt

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

The journey began on a Wal-Mart shelf.

Todd Bedard of Auburn was looking for a fun way to stay in shape. Road races weren't doing it — too boring. Endurance races like the Tough Mudder, Spartan Race and Warrior Dash weren't working out either — too serious, too competitive.

When he spotted Captain America gear at the store, he knew immediately that this would be his new exercise attire. Now, after two years of 5Ks, mud runs and obstacle courses, Bedard is readying to add a few more miles to the suit, competing yet again in the Renegade Playground Challenge, a "5K-ish" obstacle course that prides itself on its family-friendly atmosphere and tons of mud.

"Some mud races are all about endurance and how tough you are," Bedard said. "But it's fun climbing up jungle gyms, balance beams and getting muddy."

On Saturday, Oct. 6, the race will return for a third time to the New Hampshire Motor Speedway (1122 Route 106 North, Loudon). Though the course layout may change and has evolved over time, racers will likely be subjected to miles of obstacles just like they used to see as kids on the playground.

There are monkey bars to climb, spider web nets to scale and tires hanging from ropes to dodge. The course is a mud bath throughout, and it all leads up to what has become its signature obstacle: As a grand finale, runners enter a school bus through its front door and jump out the rear emergency exit into a shallow pool, about 3 feet deep, filled with mud.

"That's the best part for everybody, and everyone has a signature jump," Bedard said. "Everyone is yelling for you to do it.

It's fun, and you get covered in mud with 200 feet left to the finish line."

Brett Fiorovanti, the owner of the Renegade Playground Challenge, said this year his team is planning ways to add even more mud to the event and might even improvise on the course a little bit, using props they find at the speedway.

"Last year they had huge tires at the race track they let them use," Fiorovanti said. "People had to do high steps through the tires."

The race prides itself on allowing its runners to do all of the things that their moms may have yelled at them for in the past. But despite the climbing, inevitable filthy clothes and of course the beer at the end, families can make a day or a full weekend out of the event. Fiorovanti said the run is all about having fun, which often carries over to after the runners cross the finish line.

"Something like the Tough Mudder is kind of serious, where you need to train or might not actually finish the race," Fiorovanti said. "This is more promoted toward having a good time."

Dan Bergen of Merrimack said all the runners form a bond through all the mud and the obstacles. Bergen ran his first Renegade Playground Challenge in June and said encouraging total strangers through the course is not uncommon.

"The muddier the person is, the more you cheer," Bergen said.

Though Terri Beiter of Hollis said her family will not be able to make it to the upcoming run at the Speedway, she, her boyfriend, teenage son and his friends all made the trip to Stratton Mountain in Vermont for a June race put on by the Renegade Playground Challenge.

"It's not expensive for kids and we made a weekend out of it," Beiter said. "We did a



Todd Bedard, as Captain America, leaps out of a school bus into a pool of mud at the Renegade Playground Challenge. Courtesy photo.

hike and it was really enjoyable."

The team, which calls itself Wild Turkey Surprise, even got in some practical jokes.

"I told the kids the only way they let you finish is if you do a Superman dive out of the bus at the end," Beiter said. "A few took me seriously and did the dive."

An off-road, muddy, 5K obstacle course may sound daunting, but Bedard said the race is not as hard as it sounds. He said he doesn't train for races, but tries to keep himself in shape so he will be able to stay involved in the runs.

Del Bean, who makes the trip to run from Buxton, Maine, said the upcoming run will be his fourth Renegade Playground Challenge. He said he has been hooked on the race since the first one because of its atmosphere and because it is not exceedingly difficult.

On the verge of his 60th birthday, Bean said he likes that he can get out and get some exercise and be a little goofy at the same time. Though it's different from the cape and the shield of Captain America, Bean said his signature Renegade outfit includes a cowboy hat and boots.

"Even if you're an old man you can still do it," he said. "Life doesn't end because

Renegade Playground Challenge

When: Saturday, Oct. 6, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Where: New Hampshire Motor Speedway (1122 Route 106 North, Loudon)

Registration: \$100 cash registration is available the day of the race. Visit www.renegadeplayground.com.

you're 60 years old."

Fiorovanti said he recommends that racers get some exercise prior to the run, but said they don't have to be top physical specimens. The average age of Renegade runners is 38, and the race allows runners to go at their own pace. The popularity of the challenge has also steadily grown, he said, with about 2,200 people signed up and even more expected.

Bedard said he has found that the more people take the challenge, the more fun he has.

"I don't know anyone who went to a mud run and didn't like it," he said. "A large majority always wants to go back."

Center (111 Water St., Exeter) on Sundays, Oct. 14, Nov. 18 and Dec. 9, 10-11 a.m. Uplift your spirit through this non-denominational group. Call 772-0799, email info@wscenter.com or visit www.wscenter.com.

• **SEMINAR** at Elliot at River's Edge (85 Queen City Ave., Manchester), Wed., Oct. 16, 6:30-8 p.m. Mary Kazanowski, LNP, and David Craig, Esq., will present "Having it Your Way: The Important Role of Having Directives in Your Future." Admission is free but prior registration is requested. Call 540-4732 or email kpascetta@elliott-hs.org.

• **DAZZLING IN PINK** at the Breast Care Center at St. Joseph Hospital (172 Kinsley St., Nashua), Wed, Oct. 17, 5-8 p.m. The

event encourages women to have annual mammogram screenings and will provide facials, manicures and food. Attendees are encouraged to check with their insurance companies as most will cover the screening. Registration is required. Call 595-5700, ext. 2.

• **CHILDHOOD VACCINES: QUESTIONS PARENTS SHOULD ASK** at the Spinal Corrective Center (1 Overlook Drive, Amherst), Thurs., Oct. 18, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Learn from Dr. Jenny Cretzinger about the potential risks and benefits of vaccinations in children. Admission is free. Call 540-2734 or email hmnhillsborough@gmail.com.

• **KINESIOLOGY FOR PERSONAL USE** at the Women Supporting Women Center (111

Water St., Exeter) on Wed., Oct. 24 and 31, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Admission is \$48. Call 772-0799, email info@wscenter.com or visit www.wscenter.com.

MISCELLANEOUS Sales/fundraisers/auctions

• **WALK TO DEFEAT ALS** at Veterans Memorial Park (Elm St., Manchester), Sat., Oct. 6, at 10 a.m. Fundraise and participate in the two-mile walk to support the ALS Association Northern New England Chapter. Visit www.alsanne.org.

• **WALKTOBERFEST** at Anheuser Busch Brewery (221 DW Highway, Merrimack), Sat., Oct. 6, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Bring your dog and check out demonstrations and vendors along with food

and beer. The Humane Society of Greater Nashua will be on site with dogs available for adoption. Admission is \$5 (free for children 11 and younger). Proceeds benefit the Humane Society. Visit www.hsfn.org or call 889-2275, ext. 35.

• **SANDWICH FAIR** at 7 Wentworth Hill Road, Center Sandwich, Sat., Oct. 6, Sun., Oct. 7, and Mon., Oct. 8, at 8 a.m. each day. Farm exhibits, games and rides will be on hand. Call 284-7062, email sandwichfair@cyberpine.net or visit www.the-sandwichfair.com.

• **COMMUNITY HU CHANT** at the Holiday Inn (2280 Brown Ave., Manchester), Sun., Oct. 14, 11 a.m.-noon and Thurs., Oct. 18, at 7:30 p.m. Sponsored by Eckankar, this is a free event.

Call 800-713-8944 or visit www.eckankar-nh.org.

• **CHILDREN'S CONSIGNMENT SALE** at Dover City Hall (288 Washington St., Dover), Sat., Oct. 13, noon-7 p.m., and Sun., Oct. 14, noon-5 p.m. Presented by the Children's Museum of NH. Children's clothing, toys, sporting equipment and other items will be for sale. Call 742-2002 or visit www.childrensmuseum.org.

• **FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER** at Surf Restaurant (207 Main St., Nashua), Sun., Oct. 14, 5:30 p.m. Design Wares presents Say Yay! Promoting Hope, Energy and Life fashion show to increase awareness of autism and mitochondria. Admission is \$50. Call 882-5535.

• **TAILS TO FREEDOM FUNDRAISER** at Margaritas Mexican Restaurant (1 Nashua Drive, Nashua), Tues. Oct. 16, 4-10 p.m. Tails to Freedom is a nonprofit organization supporting the well-being of animals through awareness and education. During the fundraiser, Margaritas will donate 15 percent of the pre-taxed food and drink bill toward the cause.

• **PAR FOR THE CAUSE** at Mel's Funway Park (454 Charles Bancroft Hwy., Litchfield) Tues., Oct. 16, and Wed., Oct. 17, 4-8 p.m. Individual registration is \$25 for a round of miniature golf, or teams of four can play. Proceeds will benefit The CareGivers Inc., a Bedford-based group that assists the elderly. Call 622-4948, ext. 22, or visit www.caregiversnh.org.

Sticks in a stream

Bring Internet content to your TV fast and cheap

By John “jaQ” Andrews
jandrews@hippopress.com



There’s no shortage of ways to get Internet video content flowing to the television in your living room. If you shamefully didn’t buy some variety of smart TV with connectivity and apps and all built right in, you can connect with a video game console, Blu-ray player, or any one of several set-top boxes loaded with nothing but video streaming services.

But all that is so cumbersome, isn’t it? Smart TVs cost a lot, and other options have cabling and take up space in your entertainment center. Wouldn’t it be nice to have a complete, compact piece of hardware that just plugs into your television?

By now you should know how this goes: yeah, they’re everywhere.

Roku Streaming Stick: This little purple wonder is about the size of a (large) USB flash drive, only instead of a USB plug, it has an HDMI connector on it. Plug it into any “Roku Ready” HDTV and voila, your dumb television just got a whole lot smarter. You might be familiar with line of Roku’s set-top boxes, which stream content from more than 500 channels, including the biggies like Netflix, Hulu Plus and Amazon. Your television remote controls the Streaming Stick.

So what’s “Roku Ready”? It’s branding that means at least one HDMI port on your HDTV is really an MHL port, which provides power as well as picture, audio, and control data. It’s a pretty new standard, so this is more for future-proofing a new TV purchase than converting an older HDTV without MHL ports. It’s coming out sometime in October.

Now, if you want a more full-fledged PC experience, you have a couple more choices.

FAVI SmartStick: It’s white, not purple, but otherwise looks pretty much the same as the Roku Streaming Stick. Inside, though, is a full Android operating system. It comes with version 4.0, also known as Ice Cream Sandwich, pre-installed, so it includes a Web browser.

If you don’t like the stock apps, you can install anything you want from the Google Play app marketplace. Attach external USB storage or insert a microSD card and it can play movies and music from there, too. It even supports the DLNA standard, so it can stream media from your computer as well.

Even better, you can use the SmartStick on HDTVs without that newfangled MHL port. All you need is a regular HDMI port and a USB port to supply power. Well, and a mouse and keyboard, which FAVI will happily sell you. They’re taking pre-orders now, and SmartSticks start at just \$49.

Miniand Tech MK802: Pretty much everything about the FAVI SmartStick applies here, except the MK802 does require a cable to plug into an HDMI port rather than clicking right in. Just a slightly different hardware design; still accepts USB and microSD storage, still comes with Ice Cream Sandwich, still needs just a USB port for power. It costs a little more, \$74, but that’s good right now, not as a pre-order.

In fact, if you search around on Chinese wholesale sites, you can find a lot of similar hardware. The ones detailed here actually have their own Web sites, so I’m inclined to trust them a little bit more. Emerging tech often comes from companies just outside the mainstream, so as always, proceed at your own risk.

Stick my username in and follow @CitizenjaQ on Twitter.

WI-FI HOTSPOTS MANCHESTER

- **900 DEGREES** 50 Dow St., 641-0900.
- **AIRPORT DINER** 2280 Brown Ave., 623-5040.
- **ARCADYA SALON & SPA** 989 Cilley Road, 644-1355, ArcadyaSalon.com.
- **BILLY’S SPORTS BAR & GRILL** 34 Tarrytown Road, 622-3644, billyssportsbar.com.
- **BROTHERS RESTAURANT & LOUNGE** 6 Willow St., 668-7333.
- **DERRYFIELD COUNTRY CLUB** 625 Mammoth Road, 669-0235. Free.
- **EXTRA TOUCH GOURMET CAFE** 4 Hawthorne Drive, Bedford, 488-6620.

- **HAROLD SQUARE** 226 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 432-7144, www.harold-square.com. Free.
- **HOOKSETT PUBLIC LIBRARY** 1701B Hooksett Road, Hooksett, 485-6092. Free.
- **JILLIAN’S** 50 Phillippe Cote St. Free.
- **MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY** 405 Pine St., 624-6500. Free.
- **NUTFIELD ALE & STEAKHOUSE** 55 John Devine Drive, 668-6110. Free for customers.
- **PANERA BREAD** 933 S. Willow St., Manchester, 627-2443, and 7 Colby Ct., Bedford, 641-

- 0500, panerabread.com. Free.
- **PATIO & PAVILION RESTAURANTS** Hilton Garden Inn, 101 S. Commercial St., 669-2222. Free.
- **PENUCHE’S GRILL** 96 Hanover St., 626-9830.
- **PLANET MARSHMALLOW** 81 Hanover St., 625-8111, planet-marshmallow.com. Free.
- **REPUBLIC** 1069 Elm St., Manchester, 666-3723.
- **SHORTY’S** Northside Plaza, 1050 Bicentennial Drive, Manchester, 625-1730, www.shortys-mex.com. Free.
- **TWO FRIENDS BAGEL** 542 Mast Road, Goffstown, 627-6622, twofriendsbagel.com. Free.

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Queen City Rotary Club’s ROAD RALLY

079924

Weekly Dish

Notes from the local food scene

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

• **Celebrity chefs get chili:** Mary Ann Esposito, of *Ciao Italia*, and Billy Costa, of *TV Diner*, will appear at this year's New England Chili Classic. The event runs from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 13, and Sunday, Oct. 14. Esposito will be there all day Saturday, and Costa is emceeing the Sunday awards presentation. Both will hold public meet and greet sessions. Chili sampling hours for the public are from 1 to 4 p.m. both days and feature bowls from chefs in the area, including the Common Man, Hanover Street Chophouse, Dos Amigo's, Buckley's Great Steaks, British Beer Company and more. Awards will be given for best red chili, best vegetarian chili, most creative chili, people's choice and the overall New England Chili Classic champion. Live music, an Amoskeag Beverages beer garden and a kids' zone round it out. For advance tickets (\$5), visit www.NewEnglandChiliClassic.com. At the event tickets will cost \$7.

• **Oktoberfest! Part I:** Harold Square in Londonderry will be serving a special Oktoberfest menu Thursday, Oct. 4, through Saturday, Oct. 6. Choose from wiener schnitzel, a sauteed veal breaded with spaetzle and red cabbage (\$16.99), Jager schnitzel, the wiener topped with bacon mushroom demi cream (\$18.99), a wurst platter of knockwurst and bratwurst (\$14.99), sauerbraten slow-cooked, red wine-marinated beef with warm German potatoes (\$15.99) and more. All entrees are served with potato soup, pickle and vegetable appetizer plate. Featured beers include Julies Echter Hefe-Weiss and Dunkel-Weiss, St. Pauli Girl, Spaten Oktoberfest and Ayinger Doublebock. Harold Square is open Mondays and Tuesdays 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.; Wednesday through Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

• **Oktoberfest! Part II:** The Barley House's (132 N. Main St., Concord, 228-6363, www.thebarleyhouse.com) 13th annual Oktoberfest with German comfort food and German and local brews is ongoing until Saturday, Oct. 6. The Stein Holding Contest will begin at 9:30 p.m. that evening. Prizes will be awarded to those who can raise a liter stein of beer and hold it straight armed at shoulder height for the longest time. Full steins weigh about three pounds. According to a Barley House press release, the world record is 20 minutes and 13 seconds, but most participants don't make it past 5 minutes.

• **From one fine diner to another:** Stages at One Washington (1 Washington

FOOD

Twenty-five years with the Red Arrow

Diner's owner celebrates with a favorites contest

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

What is the mysterious force that makes diners so special? The menu? The retro feel? The hours?

Carol Sheehan, the Red Arrow Diner's fifth owner, knows it's all of those, but the essential glue that holds it all together, she says, is the people. People make diners the "focal point in the community," places where doctors, garbage men, lawyers, high schoolers and homeless people chat and eat and, at the Red Arrow, have pored over the tabbed menus: "Breakfast 24/7, Lunch 24/7, Dinner 24/7."

Now, for Carol, it's been 24 hours for 25 years. In her early 20s she took over the establishment, which had been vacant for about two and a half years, as she recalls, due to the death of the previous owner's wife.

"I really didn't take any steps to bring it back to life other than reopening it. People came and were so excited to have the Red Arrow back," she said.

Its clout continued to live on, and by 1998, things were right for a watershed year. Randy Garbin of *Roadside* magazine paid a visit and urged the diner to go smoke-free, saying it was the only thing holding it back. In May, Carol did it, a move which divided customers — some were even picketing outside — and was against her father's recommendation.

"He said it was a big mistake; it was first time in my life I didn't go with what he said," Sheehan said.

Garbin's glowing review dropped that July, and in September the Red Arrow was voted one of the top 10 diners in the country by *USA Today*. A slew of awards, honors and reviews followed. These days the Red Arrow needs no introduction; its 35 seats bring an average of 650 customers

each day, Sheehan said, and that loyalty keeps it going.

"When I first started, I was taking a plunge," Sheehan said. "There were once five locations, but the Lowell Street diner was the original. I had a knack for marketing and I always loved diners."

Her father, George Lawrence, owned Belmont Hall on Manchester's east side, and she and her sister grew up around the restaurant industry. Since she purchased the Red Arrow in 1987, the comfort food, coffee and vinyl stools that attract all walks of life haven't changed much, and now Sheehan is putting it to the people to send in lists of their favorite things about the place. In this customer appreciation event, anyone who sends a list with at least five favorite things will be entered to win one of 25 prizes.

"Great food," "EVERYTHING!" and "Always Open" are a few selections from lists Sheehan received in the opening days of the giveaway.

Celebrities are a common draw at the diner, such as *American Idol* winner and recording artist David Archuleta, who was the No. 1 favorite thing about the Red Arrow for Boston-area native Ashley Moran.

"He's been my favorite singer ever since he competed on *American Idol*. Furthermore, he's actually the reason I found out about the Red Arrow Diner," Moran said. "Three years ago, I was going to his concert in Manchester when he sent out a Tweet about going there and getting a bison burger. ... He also mentioned it at his concert." It was Ashley's first time in town, and now the Red Arrow is usually the reason she comes back.

Archuleta is one of the many celebrities whose visits to the diner have been enshrined with images or autographs displayed around the diner, such as Ty Pennington, Sarah Silverman and Hillary Clin-



The Red Arrow lunch counter. Luke Steere photo.

ton. Perhaps the best-known is Manchester's own Adam Sandler, who even built a replica of the Red Arrow's exterior for the upcoming movie *Grown Ups 2*, which he is writing and producing.

Though Sandler himself didn't make Moran's list of favorite things about the diner, No. 15 on her list was the Adam Sandler Burger, a lettuce, tomato, onion and mayo-topped steakburger. "The famous Dinah Fingers!" came in third on her top 25.

William L.H., of Nashua, praised the homemade side dishes (No. 19 on his list) and the American Chop Suey (No. 13), but his list also hit on the Red Arrow's caffeine delivery: The Moe-Coolatta and the 32-ounce Moe's Giant to help him on "insomnia nights."

"The 24/7 is great because on those insomnia nights, you go and they are there and open. My family one night was up at 3 a.m. and we decided to go. Sure enough they were open and happy to serve," L.H. said.

For the last five years he has lived in New England, and when the Red Arrow popped up on Guy Fieri's *Drive-Ins, Diners and Dives* on the Food Network, he decided to try it out. It reminded him of a favorite diner from his childhood in Cleveland, espe-

cially The Red Arrow Flyer meal, which made his list of favorites.

Although he has never met Carol or George, both of them made his list, because, he said, "it is comforting to know it is family owned and operated and local." Employees echoed that sentiment, like Christina Marsh, who's been a waitress for about six years and began at the Red Arrow five months ago.

"I love the atmosphere of this job, it's so comforting. I enjoy coming into work," she said.

Without a corporate feel, interacting with customers is more laid back, Marsh said. Even during third shift, 10:30 p.m. to 6 a.m., the customers are fun.

"You get to be yourself in here. Everyone gets along. It's a whole different atmosphere than other restaurants," Marsh said.

Red Arrow 24 Hr. Diner

61 Lowell St., 626-1118,
redarrowdiner.com

Carol Sheehan and her crew are asking for diners' top reasons why they love the Red Arrow. Create a list and email it to info@redarrowdiner.com by Oct. 15 to be entered to win one of 25 prizes, including a grand prize of \$125. Only lists of five or more will be counted.

Cask and Vine to open soon

Drinkery owners set up a bar in Derry

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

Beer, wine everywhere, and not a place to drink.

The store is called The Drinkery, but owners Andy Day and Alana Wentworth can only talk over closed bottles with customers in this wine cellar and beer cave in Londonderry, which they've owned since early 2011.

"Can I sit down and drink?" people would ask me, but because we're a retail store, it can't happen," Day said.

For the last several months they have been trying to fix that, however, and this November their new bar, the Cask and Vine, is scheduled to open. It is a 10-minute drive over the Derry town line from the Drinkery.

Much like the Drinkery's low ceilings and dim lighting, the Cask and Vine will have a farm-house charm. A rustic bar featuring about a dozen stools and about as many taps is planned, along with several wine barrel tables set into alcoves along the rear wall. Day and Wentworth are planning to serve rotating flights of wine and beers, some with such small production they won't even be available at the store. Food will be light and local, including cheese, breads, hummus, chocolates, jams and jellies.

"It's a sort of anti-big box movement. We want to work together with local producers to bring that stuff home. We see it like the work being done in farmers markets ... It's hard work, but it's worth it," Wentworth said.

The contractors doing the renovations are from Chester. To fund the venture, Day and Wentworth opened a Kickstarter campaign, an online service that requires users to meet a goal by a set date before they receive funding. When only about half the money was raised before deadline, many pledgers said they would like to see the money go to the establishment anyway. The pair set up their own fundraiser on their website, and the community has responded. They are



Alana Wentworth and Andy Day, owners of The Drinkery. Luke Steere photo.

still accepting donations, giving away bar stools and designating VIP seats.

"It wraps in the whole community aspect. Supporting local is what we're trying to do, and we're being supported locally by the community ... this is more than just a bar. We want it to be our bar and theirs too," Day said.

Aside from specialty and unique products, Wentworth said the Cask and Vine could be community venue, hosting art events and food tastings, winemaking classes and other activities, she said. It will be a place to share, converse and relax, she said.

"People can start their evening at the Cask and Vine, visit to get out of the house for a while and talk or end it quietly there, as long as they enjoy," Day said

The Drinkery

2 Young Road, Londonderry, 434-1012, www.thedrinkeryshop.com

Hours: Wednesday through Saturday, 1 to 8 p.m.

Cask and Vine

1½ E. Broadway, Derry, 765-4353, www.caskandvine.com

Hours: Opening in November. Wednesday and Thursday noon to 10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, noon to midnight; Sunday 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Food Listings

Farm stands

- **APPLE ACRES** 52 Searles Road, Windham, 893-8596, appleacres.com
- **APPLE HILL FARM** 580 Mountain Road, Concord, 224-8862, applehillfarmnh.com
- **BARRETT HILL FARM** 450 Fitchburg Road, Mason, 878-4022
- **BEANS & GREENS** 245 Intervale Road, Gilford, 293-2853, beansandgreensfarm.com
- **BEECH HILL FARM** 107

- Beech Hill Road, Hopkinton, 223-0828, beechhillfarm.com
- **BROOKDALE FRUIT FARM** 38 Broad St., Hollis, 465-2240, brookdalefarms.com
- **COOK FARMS** 869 Concord Stage Road, Weare, 529-0223
- **CURRIER ORCHARDS** 9 Peaslee Road, Merrimack, 881-8864
- **DIMOND HILL FARM** 314 Hopkinton Road, Concord, 224-0602, dimondhillfarm.com
- **ELWOOD ORCHARDS** 54 Elwood Road, Londonderry, 434-

- 6017
- **GOULD HILL FARM** 656 Gould Hill Road, Contoocook, 746-3811, gouldhillfarm.com
- **GRAND VIEW FARM** 35 Fife Road, Canterbury, 783-9886
- **GREEN THUMB ACRES** 49 Boyce Road, Canterbury, 783-4359
- **GRIFFITH FAMILY FARM** 148 Main St., Plaistow, 974-2590
- **HACKLEBORO ORCHARDS** 61 Orchard Road, Canterbury; Route 4 in Boscawen; 783-4248, [hackle-](http://hackleboro.com) 49

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Chef Isabella appeared on Season Six of Top Chef and was runner-up on Top Chef All Stars. Mike will be selling and signing copies of his first cookbook **Crazy Good Italian**.

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FOOD

Tuscany in Salem

Italian restaurant adds a sister market

By Luke Steere
 lsteere@hippopress.com

Salem's Tuscan Kitchen is getting a Market.

Joe Faro, who opened the Tuscan Kitchen on Salem's Main Street in November 2010, is expanding his vision of a Tuscan villa in southern New Hampshire. Alongside Executive Chef Ed Payne, he has added a 10,000-square-foot marketplace to his Italian restaurant — not just to bring in an Italian-style cafe, cooking classes, a wine cellar and groceries, but to further the idea of the Italian cuisine and lifestyle. The market will open in October.

"I love the concept. ... My family is from Italy, and there they do everything very simply. They shop once a day. There are no freezers; it's a very simple, artisan culture," Faro said.

He's well-versed in making the authentic available. He grew up with his parents' Italian bakery in Haverhill in the late '70s and early '80s, and began Joseph's Gourmet Pastas and Sauces out of the location after graduating from UNH in 1991. After 18 years it became a large organization and was acquired by Nestle, but his food and philosophy continued to echo Italy, and Faro wanted to do something more. Thus was born the Tuscan Kitchen and the idea for a "villa." Because of its socialist economy, he says, the country has a huge middle class that prioritizes time with family over worrying about getting rich. They spend time together eating and drinking, treasuring regional culinary traditions.

"When my family came from Italy, as immigrants, the culture permeated, there were butchers and fish shops and bakeries," Faro said. "Now you buy your bread in the supermarkets. How good is that going to be? You can only be good at doing so many things," Faro said.

As someone who frequently visits Italy, Faro has drawn his menus and market goods from the source.

"There are these amazing culinary traditions that exist. They are all very different; some have common themes, but there is a lot of inspiration that you get envisioning in those areas. You're working with centuries of traditions going back pre-Renaissance," Faro said. The simplicity of Tuscany, seaside dishes from Sardinia, homemade pasta shapes from Puglia, balsamic vinegar from Emilia Romagna and the Spanish-Arab-Greek tinges of Sicily are all there for the trying, and all the food is made from scratch,



Joe Faro of the Tuscan Kitchen and Tuscan Market. Courtesy photo.

from the ciabatta and focaccia bread on the table before dinner to the cannoli shells at dessert.

Faro had a big hand in building the Tuscan Kitchen, with its open kitchen and exposed stones. He built the restaurant on a nearly 10-acre plot of land he purchased about three years ago that extends from Main Street along Route 28 to Willow Street, where the market is.

An open cobblestone piazza with a fountain and vine trellis gives way to inside, with a 65-seat cafe for casual dining and a 130-foot glass "European showcase kitchen" where marketgoers can see the pastas, cheeses and breads being prepared for the restaurant.

The staffers are like concierges, Faro said.

"They are also like family, and we train them that way so they can educate our guests. They know taleggio cheese, carpaccio with roasted butternut squash and gelato, and they are able to walk customers through buying or wine pairing or cheese selection or a risotto recipe," he said.

Cooking different levels of prepared meals is also a specialty; prepping dough and pasta or even cooking the entire spread for a function is a service Faro said he's only seen in a few large cities, like New York and Philadelphia.

"We are looking forward to it and are thrilled open this October," Faro said.

"It's a destination where people can be transported somewhere beautiful, and the food is more beautiful."

Tuscan Market

67 Main St., Salem, 952-4875
 Opening in late October

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Weekly Dish

Continued from page 46

St., Dover, 842-4077) is putting on a tribute to the legendary Delmonico Restaurant in New York City. Now-commonplace dishes such as Lobster Newburg, eggs Benedict and Delmonico steak were first served there. After it opened in 1837, it became revolutionary for *a la carte* ordering off printed menus, table cloths, private tables and wine lists. On Friday, Oct. 19, and Saturday, Oct. 20, Stages will serve a five-course dinner that celebrates the favorites, including consommé poulet, onion royale with chestnut, lobster a la Wenburg and the Delmonico steak, an aged ribeye, with several market vegetables, and Baked Alaska. Each course is paired with a wine. Dinners begin at 6:30 p.m. and are \$115 per person. Call for reservations. Visit www.stages-dining.com.

• **The 100th reason:** Visit the Ninety Nine for its annual Boys & Girls Club Fundraiser, through Wednesday, Oct. 31. Patrons may add \$1, \$3, \$5 or more to checks, purchase commemorative bracelets for \$5 or order special menu items to benefit the club. With every donation of \$5 or more, guests receive a raffle ticket for a chance at a monthly dinner for two for a year.

• **Get caught red-handed:** Enjoy wine to benefit the Reach Out for Youth and Families program at the YMCA of Greater Manchester. The tasting and auction begin at 6 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 18, at Brady Sullivan Plaza concourse on Elm Street. This year's theme is Caught Red Handed, inspired by the Prohibition era. Dunn Wine Brokers, RP Imports, MS Walker, Circa Wines, F & F Wine Imports, Perfecta Wines, Zorvino Vineyards, Candia Vineyards, and Jewell Towne Vineyards will be pouring varietals, and a host of restaurants will complement the wines with gourmet dishes, including Hooked, The Wild Rover Pub, Piccola Italia, Fratello's Italian Grille, Consuelo's Taqueria, NH Cupcakes and many more. First-timers Finesse Pastries, The Kitchen on River Road, The Farm Bar

& Grill, and Villagio Restaurant are also participating. A silent auction with more than 40 items will be held. Tickets are \$60; to order, contact Development Coordinator Sara McCarthy at 232-8624 or smccarthy@yogm.org

• **Falling leaves, Dancing Lion:** Sate your sweet tooth pre-Halloween at Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester). Owner Richard Tango-Lowry has a Fondue Friday scheduled for Oct. 19; bowls of hot ganache are served with items to dip, for \$20 per bowl large enough for sharing. "Tasting the Chemistry of Chocolate" is scheduled for Thursday, Oct. 25, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. and will center on the feel and taste of six-phase polymorphic crystals in chocolate, and other such topics. Class is \$30, 12 seats available. Seats for the Day of the Dead Chocolate dinner will go fast too; there are 40 of them available for Thursday, Nov. 1, at Consuelo's Taqueria (36 Amherst St., Manchester): Beginning at 7 p.m., taste traditional drinking chocolate, then dine on cacao-roasted chicken wrapped and served in a banana leaf, and conclude with a chocolate bonbon. Vegetarian options are available. The event costs \$20 per person. Reservations for any of these events can be made by calling 625-4043.

• **Fresh skills:** Demonstrations by local culinary masterminds will be held at Fresh Market in Bedford (9 S. River Road). On Saturday, Oct. 20, from 3 to 6 p.m., chef Richard Sharpe will demonstrate how to make Malaysian Chicken Stir Fry in minutes. See www.thefreshmarket.com.

• **Vegan cookbook proceeds to support animals:** *Cooking with Compassion* is a vegan gourmet cookbook being offered by the New Hampshire Spaying and Altering Service, a Concord nonprofit. The book costs \$20, and proceeds from sales will go to the organization's low-cost spaying and altering program for dogs and cats. For information about ordering, call 224-1361.



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FOOD

Sliders served in Concord

Chefs compete at annual Taste

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

It's a tiny taste on a big night.

The seventh annual Taste of Concord is beefing up its chef competition by scaling down the food: Six of the 30 participating restaurants will vie for top slider on Thursday, Oct. 11, at the Grappone Center. New Hampshire Distributors puts on the event to showcase restaurants and benefit the Concord Boys & Girls Club. Participants can taste restaurant dishes, listen to live music, enter raffles and a silent auction and mingle about, but the night's pièce de résistance is shaping up to be sliders.

"I usually don't compete," said Greg Markis, executive chef and owner of Makris Lobster & Steak. "We usually just showcase our stuff. That's the whole idea of the taste — to introduce people to your menu. I do it because it's my home town, my bread and butter."

This year, organizers changed the competition to include a six-way *Top Chef*-style competition, so Makris threw his chef hat into the ring. Entree sliders will be judged by a panel and will be available for guests to taste, alongside other dishes.

Sliders are tiny sandwiches, between 3 and 4 inches across, served on a bun and usually accompanied by a host of toppings or dipping sauces. A common tale has it that the name comes from their ability to slide down one's throat. The slider's recent resurgence in popularity comes from White Castle, which serves mini-burgers and mini-sandwiches.

Makris' restaurant has no sliders on the menu, but he's not letting that daunt him.

"We always pick something that has people coming into our restaurant, so we're doing blackened swordfish sliders," he said. "It might come up against lobster rolls or pulled pork, but we're gonna stay in our wheelhouse."

Arnie's Place Manager Kaitlyn Witts said she and executive chef and owner Tom Arnold are bringing their pulled pork to the showdown.

"We smoke all our own pork and do full-size sandwiches, so they're going to be scaled-down versions of those, maybe jazzed up with coleslaw," Witts said.

Over the weekend leading into October, Witts and Arnold discussed strategy at the Deerfield Fair. Although they have minimal competition experience, both have been doing the Taste for many years.

Alan Andrian has, too.

His restaurant, Alan's of Boscawen, features cheeseburger, buffalo chicken and pulled pork sliders, as well as a slider of the day. For the Taste, he's entering a prime



Judges at last year's taste. Courtesy.

rib slider. "They are on the menu, but I'm doing some different variations, sauces and dips for the competition," Andrian said.

Blaser's Fireside Restaurant has tried-and-true sliders on its menu; co-owner Nancy Blaser said there are burger, haddock, chicken Parmesan and other ones, such as French Connection, a roast beef slider.

"Our chef wants to do pulled pork at the competition; we have a lot of sliders on the menu, though. This is our first time doing a competition," Blaser said.

Other competitors, the Barley House Tavern and Cheers Bar & Grille, could not be reached for comment, though they could be waiting to unveil their styles the night of the event. Proceeds from the event go to the Concord Boys & Girls Club.

"It's a great event because the money raised goes towards scholarships. We see 350 kids a day and currently 88 percent get some type of financial assistance," said Jon Clay, the Club's development coordinator.

"I wouldn't do a chowder festival at Hampton Beach, 'cause it's not local, or chili in Manchester, because I am a seafood restaurant. This is a great venue and a great reason for people of the city of Concord to come out and have fun," Makris said.

Seventh Annual Taste of Concord

Thursday, Oct. 11, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

at Grappone Conference Center, Concord

Tickets: www.tasteofconcord.com

Participating restaurants: Alan's of Boscawen, Arnie's Place, Barley House Tavern, Blake's All Natural Foods, Blaser's Fireside Restaurant, CC Tomatoes, Cheers Grille & Bar, Cimo's South End Deli, Common Man, Constantly Pizza, Edible Arrangements, Granite Restaurant & Bar, Granite State Candy, Hermanos Cocina Mexicana, Ichiban Japanese Steakhouse & Sushi Bar, Margaritas Mexican Restaurant, Makris Lobster & Steak, Michele's Sweet Shoppe, Mitchell's Fresh Salsa, Newick's, O Steaks and Seafood, Pats Peak Banquet Center, The Draft, Soup Gallery, Tandy's Top Shelf, The Meat House, The Red Blazer, Things are Cooking and Washington Street Café & Catering

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Escarole with it

A few weeks ago, I attended a wedding where Italian Wedding Soup was served. It was delicious and I found myself wondering why I didn't ever cook my own. This week, I decided to remedy that.

As the weather cools down, soups are the perfect meal to make during the week. They're easy to save for later, quite portable for lunch on the go and can be modified with delicious toppings (think cheese). I scoured the Internet for a good recipe and ended up combining a number of well-known ones from Ina Garten, Giada de Laurentiis and various unnamed Italian mothers. There are many ways to make this soup, and I found myself choosing based on my personal tastes.

For my greens, I chose escarole because it's a leafy vegetable with which I barely cook. While it easily fits into many soups, I always seem to default to spinach or kale. Though it's frequently compared to radicchio, I found escarole less bitter and easier to mix into already established dishes like this soup. Containing barely any calories, escarole can be quite filling because of its fiber content. It's an excellent part of a healthy diet, and I'm glad I decided to finally give it a chance.



I learned from Stonewall Kitchen's website that the name for Italian Wedding Soup is *minestra maritata*, meaning, "married soup." Apparently the name has more to do with the combination of meats and vegetables than stories of happily ever after. Nevertheless, this soup conjures up images of families eating together and the primacy of relationships in all human lives. Basically, it's almost as feel-good as your mom's chicken noodle soup. Like relationships, this soup is all about finding what feels right for you and rolling with it. There are no mistakes here. Pick and choose just like I did, and you'll end up with a perfect marriage of food, just as the Italians designed it. —Allison Willson Dudas

Italian Wedding Soup

Serves 6-8

The Meatballs

- 1 pound ground meat (I used extra lean beef, but ground turkey works great)
- ½ cup freshly shredded Romano cheese
- 2/3 cup seasoned breadcrumbs
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- 3 tablespoons milk

The Soup

- 1 yellow onion
 - 2 tablespoons olive oil
 - 10 cups chicken broth
 - ½ cup dry white wine
 - 1 head escarole, washed and chopped (about 5 oz.)
 - 1 cup dry small pasta (I used small macaroni but orzo is very popular)
 - ¼ cup chopped fresh parsley
 - 1 tablespoon minced garlic
 - salt, pepper and oregano for seasoning, to taste
 - freshly grated Parmesan cheese for topping
- Preheat oven to 350 degrees and begin work on the meatballs. In large bowl, combine all meatball ingredients and mix with a fork. Lay parchment paper on two cookie sheets. Make the meatballs rather small, about 1 inch in diameter, and place on cookie sheets. Bake in oven for 20 to 25 minutes until lightly browned.
- In large pot, heat olive oil over medium high heat. Add onions and sauté until soft. Add chicken broth and wine, bringing to a boil. Pour pasta in and let simmer for about 7 minutes, allowing pasta to cook. Add parsley, garlic and spices along with the meatballs. After about 3 minutes of simmering, add the escarole, stirring until just wilted. Serve with grated Parmesan cheese as topping.

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• **AMHERST** at Amherst Village Common on Thursdays, from 3 to 6 p.m. through Oct. 18. Visit amherstmarket.com.
• **BEDFORD** at Benedictine Park on Tuesdays, from 3 to 6 p.m.,

through Oct. 16. Visit bedfordfarmersmarket.org.
• **CANTERBURY** at the Elkins Public Library on Center Road on Wednesdays, from 4 to 6:30 p.m., through Oct. 3. Visit ccfma.net.
• **COMMON EARTH** at the

International Institute (315 Pine St., Manchester) on Tuesdays through October, from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m., and at Lafayette Park in Manchester on Wednesdays, from 2:30 to 6:30 p.m.
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FOOD FROM THE PANTRY

Dried apricots

While I've already started pulling out my recipes for soups, stews and seasonal sensations, I want to infuse sweet summer flavors into every last dish as long as possible. That's why this apricot chicken is a changing-of-the-season favorite: It's light, fresh and savory — the perfect combination for an Indian Summer night.

A friend passed along this recipe that she found while trolling foodnetwork.com. She and I are both big fans of sweet and savory flavors, so this dish was an instant hit. It utilizes some unique pantry ingredients; while you may not always have them on hand, they're easy to pick up at the store and keep around for when you're ready to create this dish. I also liked this recipe because it uses different forms of one ingredient — apricots.

Apricots, full of beta carotene and fiber, are usually one of the first fruits of summer. But you can enjoy them all year round if you buy them as a preserve or dried and pitted. According to whfoods.com, a not-for-profit website run by the George Mateljan Foundation, apricots are a relative of peaches. They are small, golden-orange in color with a velvety smooth skin and flesh. It's believed that apricots originated in China but reached Europe via Armenia. The apricot tree first arrived on U.S. soil in Virginia in 1720, but it wasn't until 1792, when the trees appeared in southern California, that the fruit began to flourish in America.

In the U.S., apricot season usually runs from May through August. You can still get fresh apricots at the store in the winter, but they're usually imported from South America. Fortunately, this recipe can be enjoyed year round, regardless of whether the fruit is in season or not.

I enjoy serving this recipe over a bed of rice to make it more substantial, but it would be just as delicious with any other starch or cut into a salad. The apricot preserves add a punch of sweetness to the dish while the onions, chicken stock and parsley make up the savory component of the recipe. You'll find that with the preserves and the dried apricots much of the tartness of



Apricot Chicken

Recipe by Rachael Ray

2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
 2 pounds of chicken tenderloins, cut in ½ across on an angle
 Salt and pepper
 1 large onion, chopped
 2 tablespoons cider or white wine vinegar
 12 dried pitted apricots, chopped
 2 cups chicken stock
 1 cup apricot fruit spread or apricot preserves
 3 tablespoons chopped flat-leaf parsley, for garnish
 Heat a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add oil and the chicken, seasoning with salt and pepper. Lightly brown the chicken on both sides before adding the onions. Cook for an additional five minutes after adding the onions. Add vinegar to the pan and let it evaporate. Add apricots and chicken stock. When stock comes to a bubble, add preserves and stir to combine. Cover the pan, reducing the heat and simmering for 10 to 15 minutes. Sprinkle with chopped parsley to garnish if desired.

a ripe apricot disappears, leaving you with a sweet, sensational flavor in a sumptuous dish. — *Lauren Mifsud*

on Saturdays, from 8:30 a.m. to noon, through October. Visit concordfarmersmarket.com.

• **CONTOOCOOK** at the Train Depot (896 Main St.) on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to noon, through Oct. 6.

• **DEERFIELD** at the George B. White Town Office Building on Route 43/107 on Fridays, from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m., through September. Visit farmersmarket.deerfield-nh.us.

• **DERRY** at Town Hall (14 Manning St.) on Thursdays, from 3 to 7 p.m. through Sept. 26. Visit derry.nh.org.

• **EXETER** at Swasey Park on Thursdays, from 2:15 to 6 p.m., through Oct. 25. Visit seacoast-growers.org.

• **HENNIKER** at 931 Flande on Thursdays from 4 to 7 p.m. through October. www.henniker-communitymarket.com

• **HOOKSETT** at 1292 Hooksett Road on Wednesdays, from 3 to 6 p.m., through September.

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• **MERRIMACK** at The Commons Shopping Center, DW Highway, Wednesday 3:30 to 6:30 through September. Visit www.facebook.com/merrimack-farmersmarket.

• **MILFORD** at Granite Town Plaza on Elm St. on Saturdays, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., through October. Visit milfordnhfarmersmarket.com.

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Beer, chili heat up festival

Powder Keg comes to Exeter for fall

By Luke Steere
lsteere@hippopress.com

The Exeter Fall Festival is not just for kids anymore.

Exeter's first Powder Keg Beer & Chili Festival, an addendum to the 14-year-old Fall Festival, is firing up for the 21-plus crowd on Saturday, Oct. 20, at Swasey Parkway. Greg Bisson, assistant director of Exeter Parks and Recreation, brought the idea up to the Exeter Area Chamber of Commerce as a way to cater adults and increase attendance at the festival and draw tourists to Exeter.

"We've always had requests for adult events. People associate parks and rec with stuff for kids, but other areas have done stuff like this and people always have a good time," Bisson said.

For the first event, he thought getting about 10 breweries would be a good goal, and a few local restaurants looking to showcase chili would surely come out. As of Oct. 1, 26 breweries and 14 restaurants had been lined up, and Bisson has been using their experience to help plan things like the size of sampling glass, tents and tables, ticketing formats and hours.

"You never actually realize how much goes into it, but they were a big help. The distributors were the ones to put out the word to brewers, and from there it just grew," he said.

Soon, smaller, local breweries reached out — Throwback, Prodigal and Blue Lobster found the event online and made calls, eager to get booths. Exeter Chamber of Commerce Director of Marketing and Events Krysta Seckendorf said she had been looking to grow the fall festival and, as a fan of craft beer, saw this as a perfect event.

"Brewing seems to be up-and-coming in this region. It's a great way to add onto the craft vendors, pony rides, petting zoo and live entertainment of the Fall Festival to make it something for the whole family," she said.

Expectations are for somewhere in the neighborhood of 1,000 to 1,400 people, according to Bisson, and ticket orders have come in from Oregon and Virginia. Seckendorf said the talk surrounding the festival means it may have a bright future, not only becoming a regular addition to the town's calendar but also including wines and perhaps adding another night.

A plethora of breweries will be at the event, including Woodchuck Cider, North Coast, Harpoon, Founders, Goose



Families pumpkin bowling at a previous Fall Festival. Courtesy photo.

Island, Shipyard, House of Shandy, Berkshire Brewing Co., The Prodigal Brewery at Misty Mountain Farm, Smuttynose, Moat Mountain Smoke House & Brew and more.

Aside from entering beer, The Holy Grail and Milly's Tavern will be putting up chilis for the tasting competition, judged by the ticketholders. Other entrants include McKinnon's Market, The Green Bean, Shooters Sports Pub, Blue Moon Evolution, The Old Salt at Lamie's Inn, The Community Oven, The Stone Church, Epoch Restaurant & Bar, Exeter Country Club, Woodstock Inn and others.

Bisson says this hasn't been capped off, either.

"We're continuously working on this. If someone is a small brewer or restaurant looking to enter the taste or the competition, they still can," he said.

Part of the proceeds for the event will go to fund parks and recreation events throughout the year. So far, organizers have been lucky, Seckendorf says, and the event has grown to something that should also do well for the Town of Exeter as a whole. The name, Powder Keg, according to the town website, pays tribute to a powder house built in 1771, which can be seen across the river from the Swasey Parkway. And if the event packs the punch it seems it will, then maybe the name will be fitting.

Powder Keg Beer & Chili Festival
When: Saturday, Oct. 20, noon to 4 p.m.
Where: Swasey Parkway along Route 85/ Water Street, Exeter
Tickets: \$20, \$5 for designated drivers/ younger than 21
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FOOD JUST DESSERTS

French toast

French toast was one of the first foods I learned to cook on my own. And that makes sense: it's just so simple. Mix some stuff, dip some bread, a little time in a frying pan, and — voilà — French toast!

But over the years, I have noticed that the characteristics of different French toasts vary immensely. Some are no more than egg-kissed, far more “toast” than “French.” Others are soaked so thoroughly that their innards are nothing more than an eggy mushy mass.

So I set out to figure out what makes French toast tick. And what I discovered is that there are three key decisions cooks must make to concoct their ideal breakfast delicacy.

The bread: Of course, any bread can be used. The French, in fact, call French toast “pain perdu,” or “lost bread,” because the recipe was devised as a way to use up old bread. But if you think ahead, French bread, brioche or bakery white bread can all add a little something to the recipe. I prefer challah, the slightly sweet, egg-enriched Jewish bread.

The ratio: Recipes for French toast vary wildly here. More eggs will add a stronger flavor, while more milk can lend a creamier texture. I have settled on six eggs to one cup of milk as offering my preferred balance of flavor and texture.

The soak: This step is the most crucial to determining the texture of the final product. If you love the custardy feel of some French toasts, soak away — some of the recipes I've encountered call for up to 10 minutes of soaking. I like a slightly extended dip that lets the egg seep all the way into the bread, without softening it too much.

The recipe below reflects my preferenc-



Perfect (for me) French Toast

This recipe came from a lot of tasty trial and error and tweaking.

6 eggs
1 cup milk
1 tablespoon vanilla
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
Pinch freshly grated nutmeg
6 thick slices of challah
Butter, for cooking
Maple syrup, butter, and/or confectioner's sugar for topping
Preheat oven to 200 degrees and place rimmed cookie sheet inside.
Beat together eggs, milk, vanilla, and spices. Heat a large skillet or griddle pan over moderately high heat for a few minutes, then melt a pat of butter in the pan.
As butter is melting, dip two slices of bread into the egg mixture. Turn bread two or three times, until just soaked through, no more than 15 seconds. Use slotted spatula to remove bread, letting excess egg mixture drip back into bowl.
Cook each side for three to four minutes, until dark golden brown. Place cooked slices on sheet in oven.
Repeat with remaining bread. Serve warm with desired toppings.

es and creates a French toast that is thick, with a light egg flavor and a creamy but firm interior. Adjust according to your own tastes. Enjoy. —Sarah Shemkus

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• NEW BOSTON at New Boston Town Common, corner of Route 13 and Meetinghouse Hill Road on Saturdays, from 9 a.m.-noon, through Oct. Visit newbostonfarmersmarket.webs.com.
• PENACOOK at Rolfe Homestead (11 Penacook St.) on Mondays, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., through October.
• SALEM at Lake Garden Center (37 Lake St.) on Sundays, from noon to 4 p.m., through October. Visit salemfarmersmarket.com.
• WARNER at Town Hall Lawn (5 East Main St.) on Saturdays, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., through the end of October and at the Jim Mitchell Community Park on Tuesdays, from 4 to 7 p.m. www.mainst.warnerinc.org.
• WEARE at Holy Cross Church (118 Center Road) on Fridays, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Year round. Visit wearefarmersmarket.org.
Festivals/cook-offs/expos/parties/book events
• CHEFS-IN-RESIDENCE The Bedford Village Inn (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001) is inviting celebrity chefs, Mike Isabella and Carla Pellegrino for special menu nights. Isabella is coming Oct. 13 and Pellegrino on Nov. 8, and they will be working side by side with BVI staff to create five-course dinners to be paired with wines. Check www.bedfordvillageinn.com for menus, prices and reservations.
• MUSHROOM FESTIVAL Sat., Oct. 13, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. at Cumings Conservation Center (126 South Road, Deerfield, www.cumings.org) includes a mushroom identification walk,

growing seminar by mycologist Tom Cumings, children's crafts, music, pressed cider and food. Proceeds benefit the conservation center. Call 463-3086 or email jean@cumings.org.
• CHOCOLATE FONDUE FRIDAY Fri., Oct. 19, visit Dancing Lion Chocolate (917 Elm St., Manchester, 625-4043) for a bowl of hot ganache and a plate of dippables. \$20 per bowl, good for sharing. Call for reservations.
• CO-OP OCTOBERFEST Soup, beer, brats and bread on Thurs., Oct. 18, 6-8 p.m. at Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St., Concord, 225-6840). Taste food and local brews from the Co-op's Celery Stick Café. \$7
• OKTOBERFEST Sun., Oct. 21, at 6 p.m. at East Hill Farm, (460 Monadnock St., Troy). Celebrate German fare. BYOB. Reservations required; call the farm at 242-6495.

Big and bold Italian reds

So many to choose from — these three are a start

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com

With the cooler weather setting in, I have been craving fuller-bodied wine. So recently when I went to the liquor store, I went right to the Italian wine section and selected three reds.

Of course, I cannot even scratch the surface of Italian wines with only three, but I selected each from a major winemaking region. Each has its own characteristics due to climate and growing conditions. Though I only know a little bit about Italian wine, there are many varietals I enjoy.

The first wine I tasted this week was **Mati 2010 Barbera** from Piedmont. What caught my attention was this wine's label — simple, with an illustration of a girl and a dog — but what prompted me to pick it up (besides the fact that it was barbera, which is a fabulous red wine) was its description, which made it sound delicious.

This wine is named after the term used in Piedmont, short for Mathilde, used to describe both a girl and a dog. It also encompasses the young wine's energy, according to the winemaker, and the spirit of either "mati."

Barbera is the most widely planted grape in Piedmont, located in the northwestern corner of Italy. This region is also known for the big reds Barolo and barbaresco and the sweet moscato d'Asti. I feel like barbera doesn't get enough recognition, because it's a great red: lighter to medium-bodied, fruit-forward and nicely balanced. It is meant to be drunk young. In Mati's case, it should be drunk within two years.

This barbera is ruby red in color with a nose of dark fruit. I also picked up some hints of tobacco. There are flavors of dark cherries with a very subtle smokiness. I like the slight tannins that are not too overpowering and don't make the wine too dry. The recommended pairings for this wine include soups and white meats. This wine has a screw cap for easy opening and is priced less than \$15 in New Hampshire Liquor and Wine Outlets.

The next wine I tried was **Corvo 2009 Nero d'Avola** from the island of Sicily.

This wine is named after its dark color and is known for its peppery characteristic. This is another Italian red that I really enjoy. It is bright red with an interesting aroma that I couldn't quite identify and didn't find pleasant. Its flavors of plums and red berries are much more satisfying, mixed with a very subtle hint of pepper and tannins. The finish is somewhat harsh. The recommended pairings for this wine include grilled meats, roasts and tomato-based sauces, perfect for fall. While I like nero d'avola, this one was not my favorite. At less than \$15 a bottle, next time I would choose a different one.

The last wine I enjoyed this week was "the affordable super Tuscan" **Monte Antico 2007 Sangiovese, Merlot and Cabernet Sauvignon** from Tuscany in central Italy. This blend is made up of 85 percent sangiovese (also known as chianti), 10 percent cabernet sauvignon and five percent merlot.

Though sangiovese is Tuscany's most widely planted grape, merlot and cabernet sauvignon are also grown in the hilly region.


This wine is oak barrel aged for one year and bottle aged for six months, bringing out the blend's characteristics. On the nose, I picked up cherries, plums and some earthy tones. On the palate, this wine is big and bold with heavy tannins. This is definitely the most full-bodied wine of the three; "big red" wine lovers will enjoy this blend. While I don't usually choose wines like this, I would definitely drink this one again. At less than \$15, this super Tuscan is good wine for the money. Recommended pairings for this wine include pasta, risotto, chicken and steak. Of course, it is an ideal pairing with a rich Italian meal.

While the Italian wine section can be intimidating, even for me, I recommend attending a tasting or just picking up a bottle here and there to try something different. When I first started learning about Italian wine I was completely overwhelmed, but now I am much more comfortable. There will always be more to learn, but if I had never tried I would be missing out on some great wines.

Drink Listings
Classes/workshops on wine/beer making
• **OKTOBERFEST** Incredibrew (112 DW Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477, incredibrew.com) biggest beerfest of the year includes beer brewing and eats from German Johns Bakery. Wed., Oct. 10, at 6 p.m., \$35, one variety case. Thurs., Oct. 11, at 6 p.m., \$60, two variety cases. Registration

required at www.incredibrew.com.
• **WINE TASTING 101** learn the ropes of vino at Incredibrew (112 DW Hwy., Nashua, 891-2477) on Friday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m. Taste flights and explore flavors and aromas in an unpretentious fashion. Free wine tasting for first 20 signups, register at www.incredibrew.com.

Classes/workshops on beer/wine tasting
• **SOMMELIERS' SECRETS** Fri., Oct. 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at WineNot Boutique (70 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com) will cover different smells and flavors in wines; smoky, fruity, floral and those aged in American and French oak. \$30, sign up online or by phone.



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DRINK

Red, white and green

A lot of wine, a little cash

This week we tried two California blends.

Our first wine was a 2008 red wine blend, **Elements by Artesa** (\$17.99). This wine comes from Napa and Sonoma counties with 80 percent of the grapes coming out of the Carneros region of Napa, which is at the northern end of the valley on San Francisco Bay. The varietal mix of this wine is cabernet sauvignon (47 percent), tempranillo (39 percent), merlot, petit sirah, grenache, malbec and petit verdot. The color of this wine was deep red but a bit dusty, and we could see through it a little. The nose was all cherry. For flavors, we got fruit up front with a nice sweetness followed by a longer tannic finish. We felt this gave the wine a real complexity. We found cherry and other stone fruit, blackberry, and cocoa nibs in this interesting wine. One taster said that it danced a bit on his tongue. We tried it with homemade cheddar cheese burgers and thought it matched well. We also felt it would go well with chocolate.

Our second wine was even bigger. It was a **2009 Incognito Red Wine Blend** from Lodi, Calif., (\$15.99) by the Michael David Vineyard. The color was a dark inky maroon, more blue than the Elements. We could just barely see through it. The wine maker used syrah and cinsault in this Rhone



go well with steak or some other red meat or a sweet Italian sausage.

Each week in "Red, White & Green," two wine-lovers look at red and white wines, none over \$20 (and most under \$15), in an attempt to find some great bottles for good prices. All prices are according to the state liquor store (nh.liquor.state.nh.us) unless otherwise stated.

• **THE BIG SIX** Eighty percent of the quality wines sold in this country are made from six grape varieties. Learn them at WineNot Boutique (70 Main St., Nashua, 204-5569, www.winenotboutique.com) on Fri, Oct. 12, 6:30-8:30 p.m. \$30, sign up online or by phone.

Special wine tastings

• **FALL FOLIAGE WINE CRUISE** takes place on Fri., Oct. 5, hosted by A Grape Affair, from Portsmouth Harbor Cruises, 64 Ceres St. in Portsmouth. Enjoy an evening cruise with a view of the foliage and taste several wines. Cost is \$37 per person. Register at www.agrapeaffair.com.

• **WINE TASTING HAITI BENEFIT** Sat., Oct. 13, 2-5 p.m. at Vino Aromas (997 Elm St., Manchester, 626-8466). H3 Missions, a non-profit dedicated to empowering people through education, health care and social services, is hosting a fundraiser for Haiti featuring wines, food, and a raffle and silent auction. Call Debra Landoni at 785-4545 or dlandoni@h3missions.org or visit www.h3missions.org.

BREW BAVARIAN FOR AUTUMN



It's the biggest brew-fest of the year at IncrediBREW (112 DW Highway, Nashua). Join the crew for a brewing session on Wednesday, Oct. 10, or Thursday, Oct. 11, at 6 p.m., highlighting classic Bavarian beer recipes from the store to warm up chilly autumn evenings: Oktoberfest, My Favorite Marzen, Oom-pah Pilsner, Hefe-Weizen, Dun-

kelweizen and Rogg-n-Roll. Authentic German John's pretzels will be served, and attendees can place bulk orders for the pretzels. Two weeks later, return to the store for bottling and to pick up food orders. Bottles are included in the \$35 price for the Oct. 10 session, which yields one variety case. The cost for the Oct. 11 session is \$60 and bottles are not included, but the session will yield two variety cases. There'll be live oom-pah music. No brewing experience needed. Contact Dave Williams at 891-2477 or email dave@incredibrew.com.

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Includes listings for lectures, author events, book clubs, writers' workshops and other literary events.

To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly

Sennott at ksennot@

hippopress.com. To get

author events, library

events and more listed,

send information to list-

ings@hippopress.com.

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• *Won't Back Down*

POP CULTURE

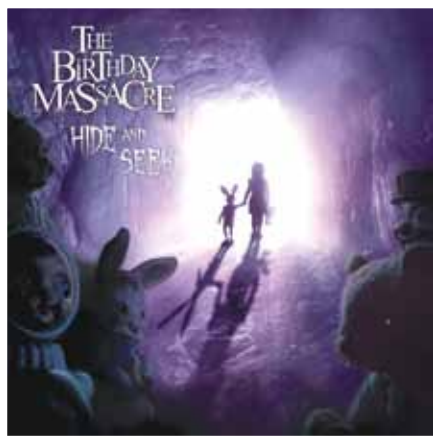
MUSIC, BOOKS, GAMES, COMICS, MOVIES, DVDS, TV AND MORE



DIANA KRALL, GLAD RAG DOLL VERVE RECORDS, SEPT. 18

Krall's 11th album is a stockpot of ambiguity. At 47, the jazz pianist/singer remains the Kylie Minogue of the foxtrot set, still sexy in a way that crosses porn star with cross-country ski jock (this isn't the first time she's posed in Victoria's Secret-wear for an album cover, lucky us); between the obvious "sex sells" look and the brick-to-the-head womanliness of her torchy MO, it's quite the package. Her early stuff had a Mount Doom of competition, covers of Richard Rodgers, Duke Ellington, etc. that thousands of

singers try their hand at every year, but her husky contralto blew doors with it, and so she became celebrated, married Elvis Costello, and happily ever after. Thing is, "ever after" does involve aging, and I'd be dishonest if I didn't note that she's a bit croaky here, downright granny-sounding at times if you want to get all real about it (it's the not-so-fun part of critiquing things). Further, hundreds of singers cover songs like this album's "Lonely Avenue" and "Wide River to Cross" as curveballs, but none of them have the (oversaturated) T Bone Burnett as a studio fixture, which is a bittersweet situation, let's admit it. I wasn't crazy about the board mix itself, either, but otherwise I'm good with this thing — the bottom line is that at least someone's making hay out of this stuff beyond praying that it shows up in the music credits for *Boardwalk Empire*. **B** —Eric W. Saeger



BIRTHDAY MASSACRE, HIDE & SEEK METROPOLIS RECORDS, OCT. 9

I honestly didn't know if this Toronto techno-goth-dance band had the brains to return to their frighteningly good debut LP and scan its essence for clues as to where they've gone wrong for three straight albums now. But there ya go, I am proven wrong for the first time in my life, ever (I'll live). Led by their moderately hot chick singer Chibi and their token drink-of-water game-geek synth-guy Rainbow, they've evolved into a cross between their first album ('80s Missing Persons dance-

synth for haunted houses) and all the other dreck that's come since (trying way too hard to out-badass Lacuna Coil), and bonus, this time Chibi's armed with a KMFD I-am-a-scary-cacodemon rasp that's in her wheelhouse ("Down"). This marks an evolution that's a long time coming, like painfully long, but there's no way not to recommend it, especially for Halloween parties, if you'll pardon the obvious. These guys finally remembered how much fun goth is supposed to be. About time. **A** —Eric W. Saeger

PLAYLIST

A Seriously Abridged Compendium of Recent and Future CD Releases

• **Kiss** has made it to 20 studio albums as of next Tuesday, when *Monster* comes out, in the stores! "Hell or Hallelujah" is the first song to be tweeted into the YouSpace MyTubes, and it's exactly what you'd expect from a band whose only real blip on recent pop culture has come from Gene Simmons' finally admitting after 400 years of existence that he looks like someone's tired old grandfather and hence reluctantly agreeing to marry tired old supermodel WhateverHerFace: The song is a little too fast, but not like real punk-rock speed, more like fastest-song-from-a-Def-Leppard-album-from-1981 speed. It's pretty dumb, too, meaning "Detroit Rock City" has nothing to worry about. Actually, neither does the song "Random Hard Rock Guitar Song For Biker-Bar Scene in Episode 152 of *Baywatch*" by the band Random Hard Rock Band.

• Recently, you may have noticed a bunch of headlines on your favorite commercial news site babbling random nonsense about **Barbra Streisand**, like "Streisand Goes to a Store, Buys Stuff" or whatever, on the front page of Yahoo. You should know instinctively that 99 out of 100 stories on the front page of Yahoo are the result of hard work by highly paid agents, who are sort-of friends with stars of stage and screen, so when I saw some dumb story on Yahoo's front page — above all the stories about international politics, never mind the new swine flu thing that's about to make *Contagion* look like a Disney movie — about Babs being caught ACTUALLY WALKING, with her feet and legs, I knew there had to be a pitch coming up. That pitch is, of course, a new album, *Release Me*, from Babs, out next week. These are all previously unreleased songs, such as her version of "Home," from that play *The Wiz*.

• **Jeff Lynne** was the only guy in Electric Light Orchestra, meaning he played and sang everything on there. Nowadays he's all up in the jazz classics, so his new album *Long Wave* (streeting Tuesday) includes covers of stuff like "Beyond the Sea," that old Sinatra song that's like the national anthem of the mafia. The little I've heard is as good as the last 5,928 times I've heard that song covered.

• For about 15 minutes during the '80s, **Rick Springfield** had everything a man could want: a hit single ("Jessie's Girl") and a role on *General Hospital* that made him a total sex symbol, even bigger than Urkel. So he got busted for a DUI, meaning he has to pay the court, meaning he had to do a new album, namely *Songs for the End of the World*, out next week. Single "I Hate Myself" is dated, silly pop-rock, not that I was expecting genius, don't be silly. —Eric W. Saeger

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Murder in New Hampshire

NH Book Festival looks at some dark writing

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Who knew? Our quaint New England state, popular for foliage-seeing and White Mountain climbing, is also a space for writing about murder.

The New Hampshire Writers' Project hosts the New Hampshire Book Festival this month, and this year's theme is "Murder in New Hampshire." Fiction and nonfiction works will be read and discussed. But because so many of these stories are based on true events, there's a draw for all — even those who haven't read the books — to come and listen.

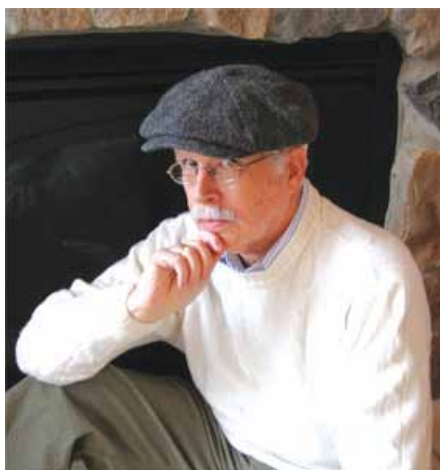
"We've got four centuries of murder to discuss.... New Hampshire is a relatively small state, but then, but in some cases, we're talking about murder in the 1640s," said New Hampshire Writers' Project Executive Director George Geers.

The NHWP is working with Concord Reads, the Big Read Program and New Hampshire Technical Institute to bring together readers and writers. Concord Reads has chosen *The Weight of Water* as its community-wide reading project for the fall. The novel by Anita Shreve centers around the murder of two women in 1873 on Smuttynose Island off the New Hampshire coast. Several events are planned around the book, including a "cold case" discussion and two film showings (*The Island Kingdom* and *The Weight of Water*).

Perhaps one of the most anticipated events will be at Concord Public Library on Sunday, Oct. 14, when New Hampshire authors Richard Adams Carey, Mark Okrant, George Kelly and Robert Begiebing will share their work, some of it published, some still in progress.

Carey's work in progress, *Their Town*, will tell the story of Colebrook, Aug. 19, 1997, when five people died and several were wounded during four shooting incidents over the course of the afternoon. According to a press release, he'll be joined by journalist John Harrigan. Owner and publisher of News and Sentinel at the time, Harrigan represents the perspective of a friend, neighbor, witness, survivor, and newspaperman who had to report on that day in the heat of the moment. He'll speak directly from memory.

Carey, assistant director of Southern New Hampshire University's MFA in Fiction and Nonfiction program, said he's talked to around 100 people, but it required time to build trust. "This incident is so different from gun rampages reported elsewhere, and it's entirely unique in so many ways. It's a compelling human drama, involving so many different people, all of whom behaved with impressive courage and grace," Carey said. He's been working on the book since 2004, and he hopes to have a final draft finished by winter.



Mark Okrant. Courtesy photo.

Okrant, known for his Kary Turnell series, will look at fiction. A professor of tourism at Plymouth State University, he is interested in historic lodging properties. It wasn't until he was in his 40s that he decided to write a murder mystery based in one of New Hampshire's grand historic resorts. Okrant had never read a murder mystery before; a piece by John McDonald got him hooked, he says.

"Writing can be such a lonely endeavor, any chance you have to get together with other people who do what you do is really exciting," Carey said. "One of the great things that the Writers' Project does is ... attracts all these people who are more or less hermits, and gets us all together."

2012 New Hampshire Book Festival

• **Wednesday, Oct. 10, at 7 p.m.:** "Poe & Me" features novelist Elaine Isaak and poet Walter Butts discussing the influence of Edgar Allen Poe in their work at Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord). Free.

• **Thursday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m.:** *The Weight of Water* author Anita Shreve is interviewed by Christina Lucas, professor of English at NHTI, in NHTI's Sweeney Auditorium in Concord. Admission is free but seating is limited and registration at nhwritersproject.org is required.

• **Friday, Oct. 12, at 6 p.m.:** Authors of short stories in the New Hampshire Pulp Fiction Series "Live Free or Die, Die, Die!" read from their work at the Barley House, 132 N. Main St., Concord. Free.

• **Friday, Oct. 12, at 8 p.m.:** Flash fiction competition for the Concord area at the Barley House; up to eight writers read original three-minute work. Free.

• **Sunday, Oct. 14, from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.:** Authors Robert Begiebing, Richard Adams Carey, George Kelly and Mark Okrant present on murder in New Hampshire at Concord Public Library. Free.

• **Wednesday, Oct. 24, at 7 p.m., at Sweeney Auditorium, NHTI:** Presentation of Donald Hall-Jane Kenyon Prize in American Poetry to Jane Hirschfield. Admission is \$10; register at nhwritersproject.org.

Contact: 314-7980, info@nhwritersproject.org
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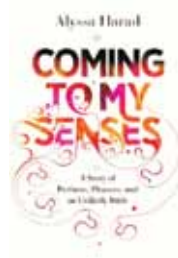
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POP CULTURE BOOKS

Coming To My Senses: A Story of Perfume, Pleasure, and an Unlikely Bride, by Alyssa Harad (Viking, 261 pages)



Outside of department stores, where we're unwillingly spritzed by glamorous women wearing white lab coats, does anyone still wear perfume?

My doctor's office posts a sign saying to come back another day if you're wearing a scent. A hospital in Minnesota, a city hall in Oklahoma and all municipal employees of Portland, Ore., are officially fragrance-free. Earlier this year, New Hampshire state Rep. Michele Packham proposed a bill that would prohibit state workers from wearing perfume to the office. "Many people have violent reactions to strong scents," she told a reporter.

On that, Alyssa Harad would agree, but in a totally different context. Harad's violent reaction is ecstasy. Upon opening a vial of perfume with "the raw sweetness of wine and wild honey," her heartbeat accelerates, her cheeks flush, her eyes brighten. "I looked, and felt, like a 15-year-old girl waiting for the phone to ring. I wanted someone to smell what I had smelled, and I wanted that person to smell it on my skin."

The biggest flaw in Harad's memoir, *Coming To My Senses*, is that it's not scratch-and-sniff. Like Billy Crystal in *When Harry Met Sally*, we'll have what she's having.

As it is, we'll have to take her word for it, that there are aromas that, when applied to pulse points and allowed to mature and develop, will change your mind about perfume, that will, in fact, change your life. That's what happened to Harad, a self-described Birkenstock-wearing feminist who stumbled into an aromatic fantasy world on the Internet.

From blogs like "Now Smell This" and websites like Perfumeoflife.org, she learned about the "notes" of a scent, how perfume isn't just what you dab on your wrist, but the development of the scent, in stages, over many hours. You think wine is complicated? You won't, after learning about perfume.

It's not just your mother's perfume out there, nor is it all Joy and Scandal, or Jovan and Jean Nate. Forget all that. Florals and musk are only the beginning. There are perfumes that smell of things like whiskey, leather and sweat. To obtain them, all you need is the Internet, a credit card and

a mailing address. And people around you with no allergies.

The English language, Harad tells us, has no words to describe scents; adjectives that belong to sight and touch are borrowed to illustrate perfume. Even so, Harad does a wonderful job making perfume seem a desirable thing, a kind of "necessary sweetness" in a hard world.

"For many years, I thought the answer to my troubles — and maybe the troubles of the world, too — was vigilance and hard work. I thought I understood frivolous, treacherous things like perfume and the kind of people who loved them. I thought I knew who I was, what I had to do, and what was coming next. But I was wrong about all of it — wonderfully, gloriously wrong," she writes.

Her journey takes her not only through the blogosphere, but to a smelling salon, where people gather to analyze and appreciate the molecules of scent; to perfume laboratories in Texas and fragrance showrooms in New York; and eventually, to make vows under an arbor, dabbled with not one perfume, but two. It takes her on a journey of pleasure.

It's an engaging story that drags only when Harad veers wildly off topic, as when she digresses into family history and a sex-changing friend. There's also a major irritant: the author's use of an initial, "V," throughout the story in place of her fiancé's name. It's a literary speedbump that no editor should ever allow. (Plus, what anonymity she wished to give him is destroyed when she thanks V., *by name*, on the acknowledgements page, making me want to throw the book at the editor who OKed this.)

Similar to Diane Ackerman in *A Natural History of the Senses*, Harad seeks to persuade us to live better by deeper engagement with the tools of our body. But there's more. She invites us to step away from what we *think* we prefer, to explore strange recesses.

It's a terrific message for anyone, except for all that perfume. For people with allergies, or simply an aversion to musk, it's rough water she asks us to enter. But if you like any smell at all — vanilla or tobacco, or peaches or cedar — Harad promises that somewhere out there there's a signature scent for you. Just not at the drug-store counter. *Coming to My Senses* will teach you how to find it. But there's danger: If you start wearing perfume, you might have to find another job. **B-** —Jennifer Graham

BOOK & LECTURE LISTINGS

Libraries

• **Amherst Town Library**
14 Main St., Amherst, 673-2288, amherst.lib.nh.us
• **Bedford Public Library**

3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford
472-3023, bedford.lib.nh.us
• **Concord Public Library**
45 Green St., 225-8670,
www.concordpubliclibrary.net
• **Derry Public Library**
64 E. Broadway, Derry, 432-

6140, derry.lib.nh.us
• **Goffstown Public Library**
2 High St., Goffstown,
497-2102, goffstown.lib.nh.us
• **Hollis Social Library**
2 Monument Square, Hollis,
465-7721, hollis.nh.us

THE BOOK REPORT

• **Recital:** Registration is open for the 2012-2013 N.H. Poetry Out Loud contest. This nationwide program of the National Endowment of the Arts encourages youth to learn about the beauty and power of language via the memorization of great poems. Competitors memorize and recite poems from a collection selected by the NEA and the Poetry Foundation. They are judged on presentation quality, recitation accuracy and poem difficulty. High school champions go on to regional competitions, whose winners go to the state competition, which feeds into a national competition. Visit nh.gov/nharts and click "Poetry Out Loud." Email Catherine O'Brian at catherine.r.obrian@dcr.nh.gov.

• **Poetry award:** The Eagle Pond Authors' Series presents Jane Hirshfield as the 2012 recipient of the Donald Hall-Jane Kenyan Prize in American Poetry. She'll be honored at the QuickSilver Center of the Arts Smith Recital Hall (17 High St., Plymouth) on Tuesday, Oct. 23, at 7 p.m. She's the author of seven collections of poetry, including *Come, Thief*, published in August 2011, *After* (shortlisted for England's T.S. Eliot Prize and named a "best book of 2006" by the Washington Post, the San Francisco Chronicle, and the London Financial Times, according to the press release), *Given Sugar, Given Salt*, *The Lives of the Heart* and *The October Palace*, in addition to a book of essays, *Nine Gates: Entering the Mind of Poetry*.

Donald Hall will be on hand to introduce Hirshfield at this event; call 535-ARTS for tickets. Hirshfield will also be honored on Wednesday, Oct. 24, at the New Hampshire Institute of Art's Sweeney Hall Auditorium (31 College Drive, Concord). Tickets for the event in Concord are \$10; purchase at nhwritersproject.org. A week before this event, the NHWP Book Club for Poets will feature Hirshfield's *Come, Thief* on Tuesday, Oct. 16, at the Danforth Library of New England College (196 Bridge St., Henniker). Call 314-7980 or email ggeers@nhwritersproject.org.

• **Library Friends are nonprofit:** The Friends of the Goffstown Public Library are now officially a 501(c)(3) non-profit, which gives the organization retroactive tax-exempt status dating to August 1991. The designation means most contributions to the group are tax exempt.

• **Reviewer writes book:** Hippo book reviewer Jennifer Graham has written her own book, *Honey, Do You Need a Ride? Confessions of a Fat Runner*. Published by Breakaway Books and due for Oct. 9 release, it starts, "The problem with being a fat runner is this: Everyone wants to give you a ride," and gets funnier from there. ("The spirit cries 'gazelle.' But the shadow yells 'walrus.'") Runners and people with any amount of body-consciousness should read it. Check out www.jennifergraham.com.

Correction

In the Thursday, Sept. 20, edition of The Hippo, two dates were incorrect in a box associated with the story, "Cities read but also view," which was focused on the Concord Reads initiative. New Hampshire storyteller Rebecca Rule will lead a discussion of favorite mysteries on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 2 p.m. at Concord Public Library. The event "Crime and Punishment on the Isles of Shoals" took place on Thursday, Sept. 27, and is not scheduled for Oct. 7.

- **Hooksett Public Library**
1701B Hooksett Rd, Hooksett,
485-6092, hooksettlibrary.org
- **Manchester City Library**
405 Pine St. (main branch)
and 76 N. Main St.
(West branch), 624-6550,
manchester.lib.nh.us
- **Mount Kearsarge Indian Museum**
18 Highlawn Road, Warner,
456-2600, indianmuseum.org
- **Nashua Public Library**
2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610,
nashualibrary.org
- **Rodgers Memorial Library**
194 Derry Road, Hudson,
886-6030, rodgerslibrary.org
- **Tucker Free Library**
31 Western Ave., Henniker,
428-3471, tuckerfreelibrary.org
- **Wadleigh Memorial Library**
49 Nashua St., Milford, 673-
2408, wadleigh.lib.nh.us
- **Wilton Public Library**
7 Forest Road, Wilton, 654-
2581, wiltonlibrarynh.org

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gibsonsbookstore.com
- **MainStreet Bookends**
16 E. Main St., Warner,
456-2700,
mainstreetbookends.com
- **River Run Books**
Portsmouth, 431-2100, river-runbookstore.com

runbookstore.com

- **Toadstool Bookshop**
586 Nashua St., Milford,
673-1734, toadbooks.com.

Other

- **Manchester Historic Association**
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manchesterhistoric.org
- **New Hampshire Humanities Council**
117 Pleasant St., Concord,
224-4071, www.nhhc.org
- **New Hampshire State Library**
20 Park St., Concord,
www.nh.gov/nhsl
- **Writers' Project**
SNHU, 2521 N. River Rd.,
Manchester, 314-7980,
nhwritersproject.org
- **Rivier College**
420 Main St., Nashua,
888-1311, rivier.edu.
- **UNH Manchester**
400 Commercial St., Manches-
ter, 641-4101, unhm.unh.edu
- **World Affairs Council of NH**
SNHU, 2500 N. River Road, Man-
chester, 314-7970, wacnh.org

Author events

- **JIM SALMON** will talk about his book *Rime of the Ancient*

FLEA MARKET SAVVY



As if you need any more reasons to love flea markets — Maureen Stanton offers a multimedia presentation about flea markets, antiques and collectibles at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) on Thursday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m. The insider tips and behind-the-scenes look at the rich and hilarious subculture of antiques, collecting and flea markets are derived from her book, *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money*. As part of her research, she shadowed a self-taught antiques dealer at flea markets, auctions and some high-end antiques shows, according to a press release. Registration is required; visit tinyurl.com/npllecture or call to reserve a spot. Courtesy photo.

Underwriter: How I Stowed the Day Job and Went to Sea on Thurs., Oct. 4, at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.

- **TESS GERRITSEN** will host a drive-by signing at noon for her book, *Last to Die*, on Fri., Oct. 5, noon to 1 p.m., at the Toadstool Bookshop in Milford, 673-1734.
- **DEBBIE MILLER** talks about *Tracking Time Through Alaska's National Petroleum Reserve: On Arctic Ground* at Eastern Mountain Sports, 1 Vose Farm Road, Peterborough, on Tues., Oct. 9, at 6 p.m. First 20 people get free copy of book signed. Call 924-7231 to RSVP.
- **MAUREEN STANTON** will talk about her book *Killer Stuff and Tons of Money* on Thursday, Oct. 11, at 7 p.m., at the Nashua Public Library.
- **ANITA SHREVE** will discuss her book *The Weight of Water* on Thurs., Oct. 11, at 7 p.m., in Sweeney Auditorium, NHTI, Concord. Call 271-6972 or email lindsay@ccsnh.edu to register.
- **ANNE DEIDRE** will talk about her book *Extreme Intuitive Make-over* on Thurs., Oct. 11, 6-8 p.m. at Barnes & Noble in Manchester.
- **HANK PHILLIPPI RYAN** signs her mystery novel, *The Other Woman*, at the Milford Toadstool Bookshop on Fri., Oct. 12, 7-9 p.m.
- **JENNIFER BUTENAS** will talk about *A Moment in Time* on Sat., Oct. 13, at 11 a.m. at Gibson's Bookstore in Concord.
- **RENEE SCHNEIDER** will talk about *Swing Time* at Gibson's

Bookstore (27 S. Main St., Concord, 224-0562) on Sat., Oct. 13, at 11 a.m.

- **PENGUIN EXPERT DYAN DENAPOLI** will give a presentation about the world's largest animal rescue at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610) on Wed., Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. Free, registration required. call or visit nashualibrary.org.
- **JANE HAMILTON** talks about *When Madeline Was Young*, the 10th annual Nashua Reads: One City, One Book selection, on Sun., Oct. 21, at 2 p.m., at the Rivier College Dion Center (16 Clement St., Nashua). Call 589-4610. Tickets are \$7.
- **DENNIS LEHANE** will talk about his latest work, *Live by Night*, on Wed., Oct. 29, at 7 p.m. at the Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord, hosted by Gibson's Bookstore. Tickets cost \$28.50, which includes a copy of the book, available for pickup at Gibson's beginning Oct. 2. Each buyer who is purchasing a \$28.50 ticket may purchase, in addition, up to six tickets at \$6 each without the book, for family or group members.

Lectures and discussions

- **THE BATTLE THAT BAPTIZED ROME, 312 AD** lecture on Wed., Oct. 3, noon to 1 p.m., by Andrew Laurie Strangel, professor of art history at UNH Manchester, in the third-floor auditorium at UNH Manchester (400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4167). Free. Visit manchester.unh.edu/events.

chester.unh.edu/events.

- **AMONG THE BEARS** by presenter, renowned naturalist, Benjamin Kilham, who will present slideshow and talk about his experience raising wild black bears on Thurs., Oct. 4, at 7 p.m., at the Nashua Public Library (2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4610). Register at tinyurl.com/npllectures.
- **POE AND ME** on Wed., Oct. 10, at 7 p.m., at the Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682). Fiction writer Elaine Isaak talks about influence of Edgar Allan Poe in her own writing.
- **CONFRONTING CONTRACTION: IMPLICATIONS OF PEAK PETROLEUM** on Wed., Oct. 10, noon to 1 p.m., presented by Peter Conklin, Political Science professor at UNH Manchester, in the third-floor auditorium at UNH Manchester (400 Commercial St., Manchester, 641-4167). Free. Visit manchester.unh.edu/events.
- **COLD CASE PANEL DISCUSSION** at Concord Public Library (45 Green St., Concord, 230-3682) on Mon., Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. Investigator Robert Freitas and crime authors Rebecca Lavoie and Kevin Flynn will talk about cold case investigations.
- **CLASSICS BOOK GROUP** meets at RiverRun Bookstore, 142 Fleet St., Portsmouth, on Mon., Oct. 15, at 7 p.m. This month's book is *The Time Machine* by H.G. Wells. Call 431-2100 or visit riverrunbookstore.com.

Poetry

- **CLEOPATRA MATHIS** hosts a poetry reading on Thurs., Oct. 4, at 6 p.m., at Walker Auditorium, Southern New Hampshire University (2500 N. River Road, Manchester). Free.
- **POETRY SOCIETY OF NH** meets on the third Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. at Gibson's Bookstore for a poetry reading followed by an open mike hosted by Don Kimball. All are welcome; come to listen or to read.

Other

- **KEROUAC LITERARY FESTIVAL** celebrates writer Jack Kerouac with eight performances of the play *Beat Generation*, Wed., Oct. 10, through Sun., Oct. 14, at the Merrimack Repertory Theatre (50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell, 978-654-4678).
- **NH BOOK FESTIVAL: MURDER IN NEW HAMPSHIRE** Oct. 10 through Oct. 14 in Concord. Book discussions, Literary Flash, readings, poetry/author events, more. Visit writersday.org for details.

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POP CULTURE FILM

Short and sweet

Vote for your favorite at Manhattan film fest

By Jeff Mucciarone
jmucciarone@hippopress.com

The thing about the Manhattan Short Film Festival is that the viewers call the shots.

Each viewer is handed a note card on which he or she can vote for a favorite film.

“It’s usually a very generous variety of subject matter and presentation types that comes from around the world, literally,” said Barry Steelman, facilities manager at Red River Theatres in Concord.

The festival will screen 10 films at the New Hampshire Technical Institute’s Sweeney Auditorium in Concord on Friday, Oct. 5, at 7 p.m. and Sat., Oct. 6, at 2 and 7 p.m. Films are limited to 18 minutes or less. The festival will also screen at the Colonial Theatre in Bethlehem on Friday, Oct. 5, and Saturday, Oct. 6, at 7:30 p.m.

Festival organizers narrowed down a batch of 520 short film entries from 49 countries to the 10 best films. The top films come from Norway, the Netherlands, Russia, England, Ireland, Peru, France, Romania, Spain and the U.S. Now it’s the audience’s turn to narrow the field further.

“Never in my wildest dreams could I have imagined that what started as a small, relatively simple event when I projected a handful of short films onto the side of a truck on a downtown Manhattan street 15 years ago would grow into what it is today, with communities all over the world getting together to celebrate via ten short films ... it’s become like Earth Day — but with film,” said Nicholas Mason, founder and director of the festival, in a statement.

“It’s cool to think about how this has evolved over a period of 15 years,” Steelman said. “It’s something that took place on a Sunday in New York City that blossomed into a worldwide festival. It’s shown in 300 cities on six continents. It’s pretty amazing.”

The Manhattan Short Film Festival, which is the only film festival to take place in all 50 states, falls in the thick of the fall film festival slate in New Hampshire. Teluride By the Sea took place in September, the Somewhat North of Boston Film Festival is coming next month and the New Hampshire Film Festival is slated to begin on Thursday, Oct. 11.

The public looks forward to the festival each year, Steelman said.

“The audience likes the fact that they can have a hand in the outcome,” Steelman said. “That seems to put them in a mind to maybe pay a little more attention to what they’re watching.”



Where the Sea Flows was selected for the Manhattan Short Film Festival, which will screen at NHTI’s Sweeney Auditorium.

On the last day of the festival, Sunday, Oct. 7, winning films will be announced at 10 p.m. and posted on the festival’s website.

Manhattan film officials help to produce the winning screenplay by providing editing, lighting and sound support, and casting.

“They seem to be all well-made,” Steelman said.

Entries come from more established filmmakers as well as beginners.

NHTI has served as a venue for the festival for about a decade. Steelman said interest in the festival has grown. Interest in short films, in general, has grown along with it.

“With the technology that is at hand, it boils down to really almost anybody can do this,” Steelman said. “Then you have to size up the ability to do something that’s worth watching.”

People can edit films on their home computers. People have access to quality film cameras. Filmmakers can relatively easily add music to a film. It’s not that making a short film is easy, but the tools to do so are much more accessible, Steelman said.

“It’s become a process which is incredibly more easy than it was 30 to 35 years ago,” Steelman said.

Visit www.manhattanshort.com.

On the screen

- The Devil’s Ballroom* (Norway)
- A Curious Conjunction of Coincidences* (Netherlands)
- Where Does the Sea Flow* (Russia)
- Two & Two* (UK)
- Cluck* (Ireland)
- Behind the Mirrors* (Peru)
- The Elaborate End of Robert Ebb* (France)
- Superman, Spiderman, or Batman* (Romania)
- 92 Skybox Alonzo Mourning Rookie Card* (U.S.)
- Voiceover* (Spain)

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Looper (R)
In the future, people's past versions are paid to kill their even-further-in-the-future selves in *Looper*, a fun little sci-fi movie.

Joe (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) is an assassin in 2044 but he’s kind of a lazy assassin. He doesn’t have to follow a guy or track him down. Instead he waits in a field until poof, a guy appears hooded and bound and on his knees on a tarp. Boom, Joe blows him away and then in what seems like mere moments, Joe wraps him up in a tarp and deposits the body into some kind of incinerator. The departed, you see, comes from 30 years in the future when it is apparently very hard for organized crime to get rid of a body but easy enough for them to master time travel. They send poor shmoes back to 2044 to be killed and disposed of, and they hire loopers, as the assassins like Joe are called, to do the deed with their big loud blunderbuss guns. When they no longer require the services of a certain looper, they send his 30-years-hence self back to be killed, which the looper learns by finding the big-money payout of gold bars where their standard silver-bar fee would be (attached to the back of the newly dead guy). As Joe explains, loopers know this is the score going in.

That doesn’t mean they’re always cool with it. Joe’s friend Seth (Paul Dano) awaits the appearance of a mark, but when the man starts singing a song from Seth’s childhood, he doesn’t pull the trigger right away. Turns out he’s facing himself but he doesn’t have the guts to “close his loop” as it’s called. As one might imagine, the gangsters — including boss Abe (Jeff Daniels), who has come from the future to run the loopers in 2044 — aren’t so understanding, and Joe sees firsthand what



Looper (R)

happens when you try to let yourself live.

Thusly, when Joe sees himself (Bruce Willis) appear on the tarp, he is not full of warm chit chat and questions about what items have been ticked off the bucket list.

So if you travel back from the future and kill somebody but then the present-day you is killed, is the person future-you killed now still dead? If that question makes your head hurt, this is probably not the movie for you. But if that makes you want to dig in to even more questions about time travel and how it works in the universe of the movie, *Looper* is a nice ride through some geeky theory and some solid performances. I don’t know if everything this movie sets up about the way time travel acts makes sense, but it makes enough sense to let you enjoy the puzzle. The movie shaves down its interest in time travel to this one thing — contract killing. And so while you imagine that evil genius criminals might want to instead go back 100 years and start buying stocks, the movie doesn’t even worry about the mechanics of that. Here, time travel is simple: future guy appears, present guy kills him.

Filling in the space around that

concept are the performances: Gordon-Levitt is strong as always. I don’t know that they needed to go to such distracting lengths to make his features look more like Willis’ (flatter nose, something about the upper lip), but it is kind of a nice touch. Willis gives his character just a tad more substance than usual, giving us a Joe who understands something about regret. Emily Blunt shows up in the movie’s second half as a woman running a farm and raising her young son, and she also does a good job making the character something more than just a tough-lady potential love interest.

So, yes, a farm — part of this movie takes place on, from what I gather, a farm in Kansas not too far from the big city run by gangsters. There are a lot of little details about this strange future — are they growing sugar cane in Kansas? what’s the story with the “vagrant riots” that are mentioned? why does big chunks of whatever city the movie is set in look bombed out? — that are never explained. We are left knowing that life gets suckier but not why. Since we’re already dealing with two futures (2044 and the 2070s), I found myself wanting more texture on at least one of them

— even though I kind of respect the movie for not getting bogged down in exposition.

Leaving me wanting more is not a bad position for a movie to be in. *Looper* might be thinner on details than I liked (and yet also still overly long), but it is a solid amusement park ride through a well-worn sci-fi concept. **B**

Rated R for strong violence, language, some sexuality/nudity and drug content. Written and directed by Rian Johnson, Loopers is an hour and 58 minutes long and distributed by TriStar Pictures.

Hotel Transylvania (PG)
A dad fears for the safety of his teen daughter in the wide world — even if that dad is Dracula and that daughter is 118 — in *Hotel Transylvania*, a light but entertaining animated movie.

Dracula (voice of Adam Sandler) fears what the torch-wielding humans would do to his adorable vampire daughter Mavis (Selena Gomez) so he builds Hotel Transylvania, a resort where monsters can come and relax safely hidden from angry villages. Mavis spends a happy childhood there but by her 118th birthday she is yearning for a taste of the world. Dracula tries to distract her from this by bringing the world — or, at least, the monster world — to her. Guests for her birthday party include Frankenstein (Kevin James), bride of Frankenstein Eunice (Fran Drescher), werewolf Wayne (Steve Buscemi) and his litter of pups, Wayne’s wife Wanda (Molly Shannon), Murray (CeeLo Green) the mummy and Griffin (David Spade) the invisible man. They join the hotel’s staff of witches, zombies and chef Quasimodo (Jon Lovitz).

But by far the most terrifying creature to enter the hotel is Jonathan (Andy Samberg), a 20-something backpacking

through Europe. He is, gasp, a human. A backpacking, jam-band-loving goofus, Jonathan could spell the end of the hotel if guests learn he slipped by all the haunted-this and spooky-that set up to keep humans out. He could also mess up an elaborate plan of Dracula’s to convince Mavis that all humans are evil and she’s better off at home.

You’ve got all the basics of modern animation: the kid who wants to break free, a parent who is afraid, a tale of woe about the fate of the missing parent, a romance that seems like a bad idea. *Hotel Transylvania* tells this standard story rather standardly — I’ll bet you could guess right now who learns and grows and how. But the monster conceit does bring something entertaining to the set-up. It’s a world that isn’t so much the creepy Tim Burton take on monsters, it more gets to the goofy aspect of them: the puppy-like spazziness of the werewolf cubs, Mavis’ first time flying as a bat, the Frankensteins mailing themselves in pieces. These characters have a Loony Tunes/Hanna-Barbera silliness to them, which is good. That Saturday-morning-cartoons lightness is the perfect level for a mid-level outing like this.

Hotel Transylvania feels a bit on the long side (it may be only 91 minutes, but at least 20 of those are unnecessary). Less plot and character development and more monster silliness might have been the way to go. Still, for kids old enough to enjoy some mild scares, *Hotel Transylvania* is a tasty-enough autumnal treat. **B-**

Rated PG for some rude humor, action and scary images. Directed by Genndy Tartakovsky with a screenplay by Peter Baynham and Robert Smigel and story by Todd Durham and Dan Hageman & Kevin Hageman, Hotel Transylvania is an hour and 31 minutes and distributed by Sony Pictures Animation.

REVIEWLETS				
<p>* indicates a movie worth seeing. For reviews of graded films, go to www.hippopress.com.</p> <p><u>*<i>Bachelorette</i> (R)</u> Kirsten Dunst, Lizzy Caplan. The ladies can be just as raunchy and horrible as the men, as we gleefully learn in this dark comedy. (Available on video on demand and via iTunes.) A-</p>	<p><u><i>The Bourne Legacy</i> (PG-13)</u> Jeremy Renner, Rachel Weisz. Or, as it's also known, "The Bourne We-Don't-Need-You-Matt-Damon." An OK but not blow-the-roof-off action movie. B-</p> <p><u>*<i>The Dark Knight Rises</i> (PG-13)</u> Christian Bale, Anne Hathaway. Christopher Nolan's Batman saga comes to a close with this movie featuring Bane as the big bad. B+</p>	<p><u><i>Diary of a Wimpy Kid: Dog Days</i> (PG)</u> Zachary Gordon, Steve Zahn. Greg Heffley vs. summer. Opened Friday, Aug. 3.</p> <p><u>*<i>Dredd 3D</i> (R)</u> Karl Urban, Lena Headey. What Sylvester Stallone movie? Judge Dredd gets another shot at the big screen. B</p>	<p><u>*<i>End of Watch</i> (R)</u> Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Pena. It's tough work policing the streets of Los Angeles. A-</p> <p><u>*<i>The Expendables 2</i></u> Sylvester Stallone, Arnold Schwarzenegger. AND! Bruce Willis! Jason Statham! Dolph Lundgren! Jet Li!Chuck Norris! Liam Hemsworth!Terry Crews! Randy</p>	<p>Couture! And Jean! Claude! Van! Damme! B!</p> <p><u><i>Finding Nemo</i> (G)</u> Voices of Albert Brooks, Ellen DeGeneres. The Pixar classic returns for a 3D release. Opened Friday, Sept. 14.</p> <p><u><i>Frankenweenie</i> (PG)</u> Winona Ryder, Martin Landau. Tim Burton remakes his <i>Frankenstein</i>-spoofing short into a</p> <p>feature-length, black and white movie. Opens Friday, Oct. 5.</p> <p><u><i>Hit & Run</i> (R)</u> Dax Shepard, Kristen Bell. Trailers suggest an action-road-movie-comedy thing, which also stars Bradley Cooper and Kristin Chenowith. Late summer, my friends, late summer. Opened Wednesday, Aug. 22.</p>

Won't Back Down (PG-13)
A plucky mom and wary teacher band together to save their school in *Won't Back Down*, a movie about the parent-trigger concept for school improvements.

Shorthand: As the movie describes it, when a school is failing, parent-trigger laws give some combination of parents and teachers the right and ability to take over the school, toss out staff and curriculum and reopen the school with new leadership (and, from what I can tell from various media reports, usually as a charter school). *Won't Back Down* is very much in favor.

Single mom Jamie (Maggie Gyllenhaal, playing the role with crazy wide-awake eyes, like she's just had three shots of espresso with a Red Bull chaser) is worried about her daughter Malia (Emily Alyn Lind), who is having a hard time in school. She's bright but dyslexic. At her previous school, a private school, the teacher was able to stay after school to help her. At Adams School — a particularly lousy school in a lousy Pittsburgh neighborhood — Malia's checked-out teacher Deborah (Nancy Bach) barely teaches during class and certainly has no intention of doing anything for students afterward. Jamie tries desperately to get her daughter back in the private school (which she can't really afford) and then when that doesn't work she tries to get the principal to move Malia to the other class at her grade level and then when that doesn't work she tries to get her a spot at a popular charter school.

At the lottery for the charter school Jamie

runs in to Nona (Viola Davis), the teacher for that other class at Malia's grade level. Nona is having her own education woes — she's trying to get her son Cody (Dante Brown) into a school that can help him with his own learning difficulties. Jamie begs Nona to try to get Malia in her class and yells at her when she seems to be putting Jamie off. Jamie takes her case for some kind of help for Malia to the school district and is told by the receptionist (for whom Jamie, a good networker, buys coffee) about how parents can take over a failing school. The receptionist doesn't have any hope for such a thing working, but the idea energizes Jamie. Having seen Nona in desperate mom, not teacher, mode, Jamie thinks she has a kindred spirit and tries to convince Nona to help her take over the school. For Nona, however, the matter isn't just a case of attempting school improvement. A successful parent takeover would mean the teachers are laid off and hired on without a union. Even sympathetic teachers balk at the uncertainty of working without a union contract.

So is this how it's going to be, movies? Recent movies have focused on the war on Christmas, Obama's secret socialist desires, and now the evils of teachers' unions — is political messaging the new "turn 1960s TV shows into movies"? Did you see Nicole Kidman's *Bewitched*? Such gimmicks do not always make for an entertaining afternoon at the theater.

I care about education, I care about the kind of schools my kids attend, I care about improving the schools all kids attend. I also paid \$8 plus, what, like \$10 for peanut M&Ms and a drink or whatever it is now so

cut me a break, charter school proponents. Maybe give me a funny animated short or a 10-minute Channing Tatum dance number, just to keep me from feeling like I'm watching a movie adaptation of the op-ed page.

Won't Back Down exhausts you with its determination to Make You Agree with the idea of a parent take over. Which, fine, convince me but can't you do it with more complexity or at least more deftness? I don't need this to be *The Wire*, but something closer to *The West Wing* (which could be preachy about its political ideology but still, on occasion, an enjoyable bit of entertainment) would have been preferable to the all-tell, no-show approach taken here.

What *Won't Back Down* does have going for it is Viola Davis. Whether she's playing a put-upon housekeeper or a CIA director or an editor for, like, five seconds in *Eat Pray Love*, Davis is the movie equivalent of bacon — she makes everything at least 100 percent better. This movie without Davis would have been, I suspect, unbearable. Just her expression while listening to her husband talk at a dinner with his work colleagues tells you everything you need to know about their marriage. I realized during this movie that I won't just watch Davis in practically anything, I'll also like her in anything. She might not save *Won't Back Down*, but she makes this political flyer stuck in your windshield a lot easier to watch. C

Rated PG for thematic elements and language. Directed by Daniel Barnz and written by Daniel Barnz and Brin Hill, Won't Back Down is two hours and one minute long and distributed by 20th Century Fox.

MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, www.redrivertheatres.org

- *Arbitrage* (R, 2012) Thurs., Oct. 4, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; Fri., Oct. 5, through Sun., Oct. 7, at 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Mon., Oct. 8, at 2:05, 5:25 & 7:45 p.m.; Tues., Oct. 9, and Wed., Oct. 10, at 2:05 p.m.
- *The Master* (R, 2012) Thurs., Oct. 4, through Wed., Oct. 10, at 2, 5 & 8 p.m.
- **Xtreme Movie Marathon** Fri., Oct. 5, at 9:30 p.m.: *13 Assassins* (R, 2010), *Hobo With a Shotgun* (NR, 2011), *Goon* (R, 2011), *Point Blank* (NR, 2011) and *Tucker & Dale Vs. Evil* (R, 2011)
- *Wild Horse, Wild Ride* (PG, 2012) Fri., Oct. 5, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Oct. 6, at 2:10 & 4:30 p.m.; Sun., Oct. 7, and Mon., Oct. 8, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.
- *The Hurt Locker* (R, 2008) Sat., Oct. 6, at 7 p.m.
- *The King's Speech* (R, 2010) Tues., Oct. 9, at 7 p.m.
- *As Goes Janesville* (2012) documentary, Tues., Oct. 9, at 6:30 p.m.
- *The Dust Bowl* (2012) 50-minute advanced screening, on Wed., Oct. 10, at 7 p.m., with post-film discussion with Ken Burns, Dayton Duncan and Julie Dunfey.

CHEERS TO FIVE YEARS



It's been five years since Red River Theatres in Concord opened its doors. To celebrate, the independent movie theater is hosting a series of special events this month, including a Best Picture Series, during which the theater will screen the Oscar-winning Best Picture film from each of the past five years. The theater screened *No Country for Old Men* last weekend and will screen *Slumdog Millionaire* on Wednesday, Oct. 3, at 7 p.m.; *The Hurt Locker* on Saturday, Oct. 6, at 7 p.m.; *The King's Speech* (pictured) on Tuesday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m.; and *The Artist* on Friday, Oct. 12, at 7 p.m. The celebration will also include a birthday cake and a screening of the film *Red River*, a 1948 film from which the theater took its name, on the theater's birthday, Wednesday, Oct. 17, at 7 p.m. Visit www.redrivertheatres.org for a complete list of anniversary events.

WILTON TOWN HALL

40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

- *The Master* (R, 2012) Thurs., Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m.
- *Robot and Frank* (PG-13, 2012) Thurs., Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m.

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- *American Autumn* (2012) documentary on the Occupy movement, Thurs., Oct. 11, at 7 p.m., as part of a film series on peace and a symposium on "Media and Government Dishonesty: the Truth about the Looming Conflict with Iran," discussion to follow film.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- *Big Miracle* (PG, 2012) Tues., Oct. 9, at 6 p.m. & Wed., Oct. 10, at 1 p.m.

WEST BRANCH COMMUNITY LIBRARY

76 N. Main St., Manchester, 624-6560, www.manchester.lib.nh.us

- *Batteries Not Included* (PG, 1987) Fri., Oct. 5, at 3 p.m.
- *The Lucky One* (PG-13, 2012) Fri., Oct. 12, at 3 p.m.

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Nite Roundup

Local music & nightlife news

By Michael Witthaus

mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Supper sound:** Capitol Center Jazz Orchestra music director Clayton “Skip” Poole brings his smaller combo to a Concord restaurant/bar for a dinner hour performance. The group specializes in Great American Songbook selections by the likes of Gershwin, Porter and Berlin, built around a piano/drums/bass format, joined by an occasional guest musician. See CJ Poole’s Sophisticated Approach on Thursday, Oct. 4, at 6 p.m. at Granite Restaurant & Bar, 96 Pleasant St., Concord, www.graniterestaurant.com.

• **Mill blues:** Guitar virtuoso Bob McCarthy grew up on the North Shore of Massachusetts and played his first gigs with James Montgomery in the early 1970s. He’s worked with Neil Young, Bonnie Raitt and Taj Mahal. For the latest in a series of Millyard shows, McCarthy performs his own set and sits in with Montgomery’s band. See James Montgomery with Bob McCarthy on Friday, Oct. 5, at 9 p.m. at Milly’s Tavern, 500 Commercial St., Manchester, millystavern.com, \$12 (\$17 at the door).

• **Autumn melody:** A fall festival in Warner has cider, color, baked goods and plenty of music, including Alt-Americana Buffalo Plaid, the rootsy Grass Dawgs, wandering fiddler Tim Hooker Hanford and the authentic Bradford Bog People. There are many other bands listed on the event Wpage and, best of all, no politicking—it’s in the bylaws. Attend the Warner Fall Foliage Festival on Saturday, Oct. 6, and Sunday, Oct. 7, in downtown Warner. See wfff.org.

• **Midwest connection:** Pianist and singer-songwriter Gregg Inhofer blends country, rock, jazz and R&B elements. He’s a member of the Minnesota Rock and Country Music Hall of Fame, but for real Midwest cred, Inhofer played keyboards on Bob Dylan’s *Blood on the Tracks* album. His current tour stops at True Brew Barista in Concord (Oct. 6) and Bedford. See Gregg Inhofer on Sunday, Oct. 7, at 2 p.m. at Bethany Covenant Church, One Covenant Way, Bedford. Go to www.gregginhofer.com.

• **Meaningful metal:** Serenade II Darkness, the metalcore duo of vocalist/songwriter Divion and guitarist Vidar Bloodfang, tackle many social issues in their songs. Think Marilyn Manson meets Rage Against the Machine, with a soundtrack by My Bloody Valentine. Divion calls his melody mixed with screaming singing style “a knife to the soul,” and the pair is at work on a debut album. See Serenade II Darkness on Monday, Oct. 8, at 4 p.m. at The Stone Church, 5 Granite St., Newmarket. Tickets \$5 at stonechurchrocks.com.

NITE

The language of Henderson’s

Country jams connect musicians

By Cory Francer
cfrancer@hippopress.com

A quick conversation on a wooden stage, a few inches off the ground, below one fluorescent light starts the song off.

“What key is this in?”

“Do you know the words to this one?”

After the band works its way through the first couple bars, the players fall into rhythm and they, along with the 10 or so audience members, some with their eyes closed, but singing each word, make a two-room music store in Candia feel like a Tennessee saloon in the 1950s when the likes of Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard and Buck Owens ruled country music.

At least once a week, Henderson’s Pickin’ Parlor (179 Raymond Road, Candia) hosts traditional country jams where anyone can stop in with an instrument and play, sit and watch or get up and dance. The country jams are on Thursday nights, and rock ’n’ roll jams are on Mondays. Jody Henderson, who owns the store with his father, Joe, said the store is hoping to have live music every night of the week.

“We may be out in the woods, but we’ve had quite a few bands get started here,” Jody Henderson said.

On Thursday, Sept. 27, Joe Rollins sat stage right, alternating between a fiddle and an electric guitar while sharing some of the vocal duties. A frequent participant in the weekly jams, Rollins said the talent of the musicians who come through Henderson’s has been at such a high level that he recently started a band, Nashville Rash, right out of the music store.

The band is starting to book gigs, Rollins said, and will play traditional country numbers with three guitars, a pedal steel guitar and a fiddle. Before the band takes on a gig outside of Henderson’s, Rollins said, the weekly jams are a good place to test out material.

“You need to be able to reach the audience,” he said. “For me, life is a stage and it’s good to get feedback to see what people like.”

The Hendersons say they never know precisely who will be attending the jams, but there is typically a strong turnout. At the Sept. 27 jam, musicians were spilling off the stage and setting up seats in the audience to strum along. Joe Henderson said that it is not uncommon for business travelers who get sent to Boston from the South to make the trip to Candia after looking the place up online, to



Musicians at the Henderson’s Pickin’ Parlor traditional country jam on Thursday, Sept. 27. Cory Francer photo.

get a taste of country music in New England.

“They don’t want to just sit in their hotel room,” he said.

The conversation continues in back:

“Do you know ‘Walking After Midnight?’”

“I don’t know. Play it and we’ll see what happens.”

It’s clear that tonight’s band has an open-door policy. Some players who come are in their 90s, while some are young and have only attended a couple prior jams.

As they work their way through Hank Thompson’s “Wild Side of Life” and Hank Williams’ “Your Cheatin’ Heart,” each song ends with

applause from the audience and laughter from the stage.

Music, Rollins said, is a conversation. And when everyone can participate, that is when the best sounds are made.

“You get in the room and everyone communicates in the same language,” he said.

Henderson’s Pickin’ Parlor

Where: 179 Raymond Road, Candia

When: Rock ’n’ roll jams are Mondays at 7 p.m. Country jams are Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Admission: Free, just bring an instrument or come and watch.

Million-dollar makeover

Nashua nightspot expanded and rebranded as Arena

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Before the Amber Room closed for renovations in late March, the Nashua dance club stayed open regularly only on Friday and Saturday nights, with an occasional one-off live concert. A million-dollar upgrade now complete, it’s now Arena, and a seven-day-a-week concern.

There’s much more than state-of-the-art sound, lights and top DJs to entice customers. The former flavor returns, along with a full restaurant menu, a massive sports bar, and a new stage that’s suitable for national touring acts like Powerman 5000 and Saving Abel, both of whom are due to perform

there in the coming months.

In fact, Saving Abel was originally scheduled to christen the venue on Thursday, Sept. 27. Due to permitting issues, however, the club’s official opening night is now Friday, Oct. 5.

Like Amber Room, Arena will remain an electronic dance music mainstay, according to new marketing and promotions manager Bernie Goulet. Shaun “DJ Danjah” White anchors Friday nights, and DJ Lou works the controls on Saturdays. Symmetry, a weekly all-ages dance party that’s been held across town at Junkyard for the past year, will move to Arena beginning Wednesday, Oct. 10.

As the name implies, live music is a

big focus at Arena, and it’s one of the primary reasons Goulet came on board. The New England Concerts impresario promises live rock music every Thursday night. A five-band show featuring metalcore stalwarts Unearth and deathcore sextet Born of Osiris is set for November; more announcements should come soon.

Goulet is excited about the upgrades.

“It’s very important to touring bands that they have good production, sound, lights and staging,” he says. “The stage is now 4 feet high, and it’s the loudest sound system in New Hampshire for a nightclub.”

The new additions will make the club more attractive to big name acts. “Because the staging has increased, the quality will

NITE

improve as well,” says Goulet. “I’m hoping to get bands that would play the Casino Ballroom, and that can happen with a capacity of 500.”

While the concert and dance facility occupies Arena’s back half, the front is now a massive sports bar and restaurant. “It’s the only place to really watch a game, and we have the NFL Sunday Ticket,” says Goulet. A three-sided, 100-foot-long video wall surrounded by a new granite bar features more than 50 60-inch LCD high-definition screens, with a ticker crawling beneath with constant updates. Sports celebrities like former Patriots quarterback Scott Zolak will be frequent visitors to the club.

A weekly high-tech interactive Tuesday Night Trivia event is planned. Players will use remote controllers to play against other venues across the country. “Arena is the only club in New Hampshire with that,” says Goulet. Contestants will have chances at concert tickets and other prizes.

In addition to dancing, Friday nights will feature one-man acoustic performers like Chad LaMarsh and Josh Logan, and other live entertainment offerings are in the works for Saturdays.

The new restaurant menu is traditional American pub food, with hamburgers made with beef purchased from a third- or fourth-generation butcher from New York — a New Hampshire exclusive for the club.

Award-winning bartender Jared Bracci has designed a special drink menu, and on Saturdays and Sundays, Arena will offer a \$20 brunch that includes prime rib, seafood and other buffet fare.

Goulet was initially brought on as a consultant before being hired full time. He also runs Backstage Bar and Grill in Nashua, though that’s up for sale since he took the position at Arena. “It’s one of those things,” he says. “I wish I could do it all but there’s not enough time in the day.”

The delay in opening has been a bit frustrating, forcing the postponement of concerts and putting much of the live music planning on hold. But all concerned are taking things in stride and looking forward to the future; a weeklong soft opening happens prior to Oct. 5.

“This is a huge undertaking, going from a club open Saturdays 9 to 2 to a 400-seat restaurant that’s open seven days a week,” says Goulet. “With 60 to 70 employees hired, it’s pretty substantial compared to what they were doing.”

Arena Sports Bar (formerly Amber Room)

Grand opening

When: Friday, Oct. 5

Where: 53 High St., Nashua

Info: www.arenanh.com

• **THE CONCORD COACHMEN** kick off the 2012-2013 Friends of the Bedford Library concert series on Sun., Oct. 7, at 2:30 p.m., at Bedford Public Library, 3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-3023, www.bedford.lib.nh.us.

• **JOHNNY FRIDAY WITH DJ MIDAS & REED** will perform on Sun., Oct. 7, at Social 24, 24 Depot St., Manchester, 782-8489

• **AN EVENING OF IRISH MUSIC** with Paul Carroll on Wed., Oct. 10, at 6:30 p.m., at Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry, 603-432-6140.

• **JIM LAULETTA AND MIKE PRIOR** will perform on Sat., Oct. 13, at 8 p.m., at The Pearl, 45 Pearl St., Portsmouth, 431-0148.

• **TOM DIXON TRIO** will perform Sun., Oct. 14, at Social 24, 24 Depot St., Manchester, 782-8489.

• **PALEFACE** will perform on Mon., Oct. 15, at 8 p.m., at The Red Door, 107 State St., Portsmouth, 373-6827.

Bowling

• **BOUTWELL’S BOWLING CENTER** 152 N. State St., Concord, 224-0941

• **BOWL IT CENTER** 244 Elm St., Milford, 554-1633, funbowl-ing.com

• **LAKE SIDE LANES** 2171 Candia Road, Manchester, 627-7722, lakesidelanes.com

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If you missed the real thing this summer at Fenway Park, check out Bruce in the USA, a tribute act to Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band. The group will perform Friday, Oct. 12, at the Palace Theatre (80 Hanover St., Manchester) at 7:30 p.m. Tickets range from \$24.50 to \$34.50. Call 668-5588 or visit www.palacetheatre.org.

Nightlife Listings

Music, comedy & parties

• **R-RATED HYPNOTIST FRANK SANTOS JR.** will perform at the Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Sat., Oct. 6, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$24.50. See palacetheatre.org.

• **PAWTUCKAWAY MUSIC FESTIVAL** at Pawtuckaway State Park in Nottingham on Sat., Oct. 6, and Sun., Oct. 7. Performers include Lady Bones,

Dan Blakeslee, The Migs, The B.A. Canning Band, Christine Hayward, Honey Watts and more. Attendees looking to stay for both days have the option of camping overnight and should contact coordinator Joey Pratt at pawtuckawaymf@gmail.com for information. Saturday tickets are \$12, Sunday tickets are \$10, and a two-day pass is \$20. See www.facebook.com/PawtuckawayMusicFestival.

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NITE

Craving Lucy turns it up to five

Local rockers have revamped lineup, new EP

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

The new Craving Lucy EP begins with gentle piano, brushes on snare drum, an ethereal synth riff — a moment of repose at the end of a tumultuous, often challenging year that's seen two members leave. Then things get in gear with the title song, "Resolution," and it becomes clear: The band is stronger for the changes.

Bass player Keith Lewis joined Craving Lucy following the departure of co-founder and guitarist Mark Fitzpatrick in mid-2011. Drummer Justin Pacy left a few months later, replaced by Simon Adamsson. The newest addition is second guitarist Rick Caikauskas, who joined in early summer. The band's first show as a five-piece was Aug. 10 at The Middle East in Cambridge, Mass.

The record, due for a mid-October release, was finished amidst crisis, when Lewis was called away on a family emergency. Guitarist Nate Comp handled Lewis's role, along with all the keyboards; the group completed *Resolution* as a trio.

"We had to get it done," says band founder, lead singer and lyricist Steve Archambault. "Nate knows Keith and his abilities; Keith gave us his blessing."

The six-track disc is a wide-ranging affair. "I wanted to make sure we had six songs that sounded like they weren't cut from the same cloth," Archambault says. There's roiling rage on "Living Nightmare" and "Drama Queen," the latter a single released in June to remind fans they were still around. A churning rocker, "Drama Queen" is a scathing track that provided catharsis for Archambault during the band's struggles. "Everyone close to the situation hears the first four lines of that song and knows exactly what it's about," he says.

"Down" is a standout track solidly in the band's active rock wheelhouse but with



Craving Lucy. Courtesy photo.

more pop elements.

"We just haven't ever been a one-dimensional band," Archambault says.

The group is looking forward to playing more shows. "Chemistry is everything, and we've got it," Archambault says. "It's fueled by four of the best attitudes I've ever been around. There's nothing but love and respect, and it fuels progress. We're writing as a five-piece and it's more exciting. Every time we play we can't wait, and every time we finish, we wish we had another 45 minutes."

Adding Caikauskas fulfills a longtime goal. "I had expressed years ago that I would like to get another guitar player and raise the bar musically," Archambault says, calling the new member "an old soul in a young body who gets every aspect of what we do — he's a perfect fit." With the EP release imminent — a Nov. 17 show at Milly's will likely serve as release party — the band is gearing up for a promotional blitz.

"We're working on a Kickstarter cam-

paign and now it's a matter of choosing the single, which I can't talk about yet," Archambault says coyly. The new configuration and songs have him energized, determined to surpass the heights of 2007's *Therapy*, which received airplay on Rock 101 and Sirius/XM's *Octane* channel.

"It's ironic to me that at a time when the industry is at its toughest and worst that this band right now is at its best," Archambault says. "... Our odds are best right now. This band has never been happier or stronger or tighter, so I'm really keeping my fingers crossed this time."

Craving Lucy

Go to www.cravinglucy.com to hear songs from the *Resolution* EP and get details on upcoming shows, including Saturday, Nov. 17, at 9 p.m. at Milly's Tavern (500 Commercial St., Manchester, www.millystavern.com)

- **LEDA LIGHTHOUSE** 340 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-4884, ledalanes.com
- **KING BOWLING LANES** 751 Mast Road, Manchester, 623-9215, kingslanes.com
- **MERRIMACK TEN PIN CENTER** 698 DW Hwy., Merrimack, 429-0989
- **MILFORD LANES** 244 Elm St., Milford, 554-1633
- **SPARE TIME** 216 Maple St., Manchester, 625-9656, stadiumtenpin.net

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Entertainment

- **SUNDAY NIGHT BALLROOM** dance parties are held weekly at Queen City Ballroom Dance Studio, 21 Dow St., Manchester, from 6 to 9 p.m. Tickets cost \$9; admission is free for first-timers. Singles and couples are welcome. Call 622-1500 or visit queencityballroomnh.com.
- **POETS JAM** at The Jam Factory at Raxx Billiards, 1211 Elm St., Manchester, on Wednesdays, from 7:30 to 10 p.m. The jam is 18-plus.
- **SINGLES DANCE** held every Friday at 8 p.m. with DJ JoAnn at Daniels Hall, Route 4, Nottingham. Admission is \$12 and includes free light buffet and drinks, casual dress. Call 942-8525 or see www.singles-danceparties.com.

Karaoke

- **603 LOUNGE** 14 W. Hollis St., Nashua, 821-5260, Thursdays at 8 p.m.
- **ANTHONY'S PIER** The Pier at Weirs Beach, 263 Lakeside Ave., Laconia, 366-5855, Thursdays at 5 p.m. w/Bobby Freedom
- **BEIJING & TOKYO** 61 S. Main St., Concord, 228-0888, Fridays and Saturdays at 9 p.m.
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- **CHEN'S** 122 E. Broadway, Derry, 437-8338, Saturdays at 8:30 p.m.
- **CHEN YANG LI** 520 South St., Bow, 228-8508, Thursdays at 9 p.m.
- **CHOP SHOP PUB** 920 Lafayette Road, Seabrook, 760-7706, Wednesdays at 8 p.m. w/ Matty R
- **DANIEL STREET TAVERN** 111 Daniel St., Portsmouth, 430-1011, Fridays and Sundays at 9 p.m.
- **DOVER BRICKHOUSE** 2 Orchard St., Dover, 749-3838, Sundays at 9 p.m.
- **ELEMENT LOUNGE** 1055 Elm St., Manchester, 627-2922, Sundays at 6 p.m. and Tuesdays at 8 p.m. with DJ Sharon.
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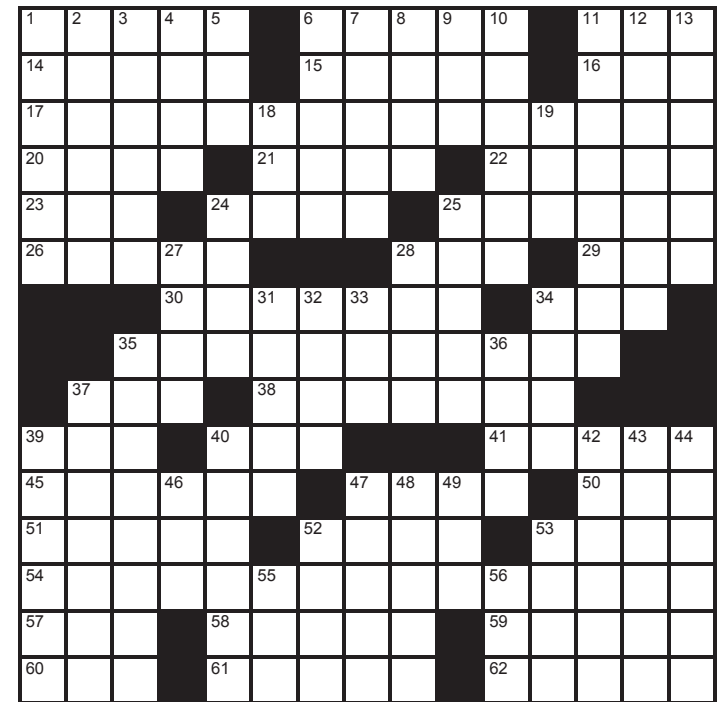
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Every little puzzle

Across

1. 'Youth & Young Manhood' ___ Of Leon
6. Abandoned ___
11. Doors singer Morrison
14. AC/DC "Let me cover you ___" (2,3)
15. Our Lady Peace song about an orphan?
16. Singer/songer DiFranco
17. '86 Bruce Hornsby "The Way It Is" hit (5,6,4)
20. Grateful Dead "Wait until that ___"



come round"

21. Reverb's cousin
22. What agent does to career
23. Showbiz connections
24. Other half of 'Lite', in early 90s
25. Blondie's Harry
26. Never important as talent
28. '___ Lady Of Solitude' Leonard Cohen
29. Accountant-less star enemy
30. Thematic classics
34. Billy Joel 'Just The Way You ___'
35. White Stripes "You just do ___" (2,5,4)
37. Indie band Uh ___ Her
38. The Chicago ___ Authority
39. Hotel room extra for an extra
40. Gary Moore 'Still ___ The Blues'
41. Lots of CDs
45. Platters 'Washed ___'
47. What duets come in
50. Van driver need
51. Bruno Mars 'Liquor ___ Blues'
52. Roger Clyne & The Peacemakers '___ Squad'
53. '91 White Lion album '___ Attraction'
54. Bob Dylan 'Sitting On A ___' (6,4,5)
57. Queens Of The Stone ___
58. Augustine song about BBQ fuel?
59. Like free shirt w/CD
60. 'Only In Amerika' (___) PE
61. 'Harlem River Blues' Justin Townes
62. What Lita Ford was 'Smokin' ___

Down

1. Anthony of Red Hot Chili Peppers
2. Make up new technology
3. Robert Pepper '___ Way Out' (2,4)
4. Who a "guy" usually sings about
5. He boxed to 'Eye Of The Tiger', slang
6. Deep Purple/Whitesnake drummer Ian
7. Bruce Hornsby '___ Western Skyline' (2,3)
8. Seether 'Holding ___ Strings Better Left To Fray'
9. Rapper ___ Kim
10. Smokey Robinson 'Just To ___' (3,3)
11. M Ward song about escapee?
12. What mentor will do
13. Not hits
18. Iconic English guitarist Albert
19. 'Slow Down' Grammy-winner Mo'
24. Default song that will say it ain't so?
25. Blows away other jammer, slang
27. All-female Aussie band
28. Shining song that foreshadows?
31. Sean Paul 'Head ___' (2,3)
32. Nine Inch Nails classic
33. Notable period of music
34. LA rockers Palo ___
35. Wrote autobiography
36. Destroyer uses 'European' ones for massages, perhaps
37. Jack's Mannequin song about holdup victim?
39. Clash 'Rock The ___'

40. Country Gus G from Ozzy is from
42. '86 Boston classic
43. Violent Femmes "I ___ before I had two feet
44. Sullivan 'Cars At Break-Neck',
46. Trippy UK pioneers
47. Beasties 'Licensed ___' (2,3)
48. What you hope the other bands at the battle are
49. Orleans 'Still The ___'
52. Over the top Virginia metalers
53. Beatles 'Love ___'
55. Foo Fighters "It's a shame we have to die my dear" song
56. Weird Al's Michael Jackson parody

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Written By: Todd Santos

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Thursday, Oct. 4	mary's Baby Blues	Portsmouth Dolphin Striker: Timothy Gurshin Press Room: Ray Mason Red Door: Local Heroes	Phil Nunez Wally's Pub: Bailout	Meredith Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois
Concord Hermanos: Paul Combs	Londonderry Whippersnappers: Bongo Fury	Seabrook Chop Shop Pub: Rodehed	Laconia Fratello's: Paul Luff Pitman's Freight Room: Don Watson	Merrimack Homestead: Charlie Christons
Dover Brick House: Pitch Black Ribbons	Manchester Blu: DJ Chad Jokers: MB Padfield Strangebrew: Mike Fioretti		Londonderry The Coach Stop: Brian Gray Whippersnappers: The Slakas	Milford Clark's Tavern: Gary Lopez J's Tavern: Just Us Pasta Loft: Scooter Way Band
Epping Holy Grail: Eargasm	Meredith Giuseppe's: Jim Tyrell		Manchester Blu: DJ Sammy British Beer Company: Lydia Warren Band Derryfield: The Hitmen Fratello's: Sev Jokers: Tom Dixon Band Milly's: James Montgomery Band Strangebrew: Rhythm Method	Nashua Fody's: Chris White Band Killarney's Irish Pub: Cold-steam Peddler's Daughter: The Swinging Johnsons Stella Blu: The Gentleman Outfit
Gilford Patrick's Pub: Paul Warnick	Milford J's Tavern: Triana Wilson	Boscawen: Alan's: Doug Mitchell	Gilford Patrick's Pub: Chris Lester	
Hampstead Pasta Loft: Lisa Guyer	Nashua Fody's: Josh Logan Band Old Amsterdam: Dan Morgan	Concord Makris: Tammy Lynn & Myles High Pit Road Lounge: Day Janeiro	Hampstead Pasta Loft: Savant Squad	
Hampton Wally's Pub: Eric Normand	Newmarket Stone Church: Kung Fu		Hampton Ron's Landing: Matt Luneau &	
Laconia Pitman's Freight Room: Rose-				

Jade Dragon 515 DW Highway, 424-2280	The Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St., 880-8686 Penuche's Ale House 4 Canal St., 595-9831 Pine Street Eatery 136 Pine St., 886-3501 The Polish American Club 15 School St., 889-9819 Sausage King 53 Main St., 204-5110 Simple Gifts Coffee House 58 Lowell St. 603 Lounge 14 W. Hollis St., 821-5260 Slade's Food & Spirits 4 W. Hollis St., 886-1334 Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St., 578-5557 Studio 99 17 Factory Street, 603-562-5179 Villa Banca 194 Main St., 598-0500 Wicked Twisted Bar & Grill 38 E. Hollis St., 577-1718, wickedtwistedbarandgrill.com	Peterborough Players Theater Hadley Road Plaistow Corner Pocket 181 Plaistow Road., 382-3130 Dugout Grille 93 Main St., 819-4947 The Sad Café 148 Plaistow Rd, 382-8893 Portsmouth American Legion Post 6 96 Islington St. Blue Mermaid Island Grill hill at Hanover and High streets, 427-2583 Daniel Street Tavern 111 Daniel St. Dolphin Striker 15 Bow St., 431-5222 Fat Belly's 2 Bow St. 610-4337 Gas Light Co. 64 Market St., 431-9122 The Hilton Garden Inn 100 High St., 431-1499 Jitto's Supersteak 3131 Lafayette Rd, 436-9755 The Music Hall 104 Congress St., 433-3100 Paddy's American Grill 27 International Drive, 430-9450 Portsmouth Pearl 45 Pearl St., 431-0148 Press Room 77 Daniel St., 431-5186 The Red Door 107 State St., 373-6827 Red Hook Brewery 35 Corporate Dr., 430-8600 Ri Ra Irish Pub 22 Market Square, 319-1680 Rudi's 20 High St., 430-7834 Rusty Hammer 49 Pleasant St., 436-9289 The Wet Bar 172 Hanover St.	Raymond Famous Legends Bar & Grill at Strikers East 4 Essex Drive Freetown Yankee Market 58 Route 27, 895-3418 Salem Black Water Grill 43 Pelham Road, 328-9013 Jocelyn's Lounge 355 S. Broadway, 870-0045 Murray's Tavern 326 S. Broadway, 894-9100 Sayde's Restaurant 136 Cluff Crossing Road, 890-1032 The Varsity Club 67 Main St., 898-4344 Seabrook American Legion Post 70 169 Walton Road Chop Shop Pub 920 Lafayette Road, 474-6001 Honey Pot Bar & Lounge 920 Lafayette Road, 760-2013 Master McGrath's Route 107, 474-6540 Prime Time Sports Grill 620 Lafayette Road, 760-7230 Sunapee One Mile West Tavern 6 Brook Road, 863-7500 Sunapee Coffee House Methodist Church, Route 11 Wilton Pine Hill Auditorium Pine Hill Waldorf School, 77 Pine Hill Drive Windham Jonathon's Lounge Park Place Lanes, Route 28, 800-892-0568
Milford American Legion 15 Cottage St., 673-9804 Chapanga's 168 Elm St., 249-5214 Clark's Tavern 40 Nashua St., 769-3119 J's Tavern 63 Union Sq., 249-9222 The Pasta Loft 241 Union Sq., 672-2270 Madison's Irish Pub 586 Nashua St. Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills 50 Emerson Road, 673-7123 Nashua Arena Sportsbar & Nightclub 53 High St., 881-9060 Backstage Bar and Grill 56 Canal St., 598-8256 Boston Billiard Club 55 Northeastern Blvd., 595-2121 Country Tavern 452 Amherst St., 889-5871 Fat Daddy's Cafe 650 Amherst St. Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St., 577-9015 Haluwa Lounge Nashua Mall, 883-6662 Junkyard 522 Amherst St., 882-6026 Killarney's Irish Pub Holiday Inn, 888-1551 Lafayette Club 34 High St, 889-9860 Martha's Exchange 185 Main St., 883-8781 McKenzie's Restaurant and Bar 96 Main St., 577-1151 Michael Timothy's 212 Main St., 595-9334 Nashua Garden 121 Main St., 886-7363 Old Amsterdam Bar 8 Temple St., 204-5501	New Boston Gravity Tavern 35 Mont Vernon Rd, 487-2011 Newmarket Lamprey River Tavern 110 Main St., 659-3696 KJ's Sports Bar N. Main St., 659-2329 Stone Church 5 Granite St., 650-7700 Newton Hen House Sports Bar & Grill 85 S. Main St., 382-1705 Pelham Shooters 116 Bridge St., 635-3577 Peterborough Harlow's Pub 3 School St., 924-6365		

Newmarket
Stone Church: Kung Fu

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub: The Blind Owl Band

Plaistow:
Sad Cafe: The Permanent Holiday

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: The D Train
Dolphin Striker: Jeremy Lyons Trio
Gas Light Co.: Pat Foley Band
Press Room: Johnny and the Two Timers
Red Door: Caseroc

Seabrook:
Chop Shop Pub: Likk

Saturday, Oct. 6
Boscawen
Alan's: Guns for Hire Band

Concord
Hermano's: Joel Cage
Pit Road Lounge: Day Janeiro

Epsom
Circle 9 Ranch: Craig Kendall, Northwood Playboys

Exeter
Shooters Pub: Kick the Ladder

Gilford
Patrick's Pub: Dave Bundza

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Nobody's Fault

Hampstead
Pasta Loft: Siroteau

Hampton
Wally's Pub: Wildside

Londonderry
The Coach Stop: Jeff Mrozek
Whippersnappers: Mama Kicks

Manchester
Blu: Last Laugh
Boynton's Taproom: Dueling Pianos
British Beer Company: The Heist
Derryfield: Triple Tantrum
Fratello's: Charlie Christos
Jokers: Randy Arrant
Strangebrew: Mr. Nick/Dirty Tricks

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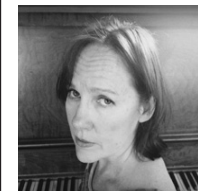
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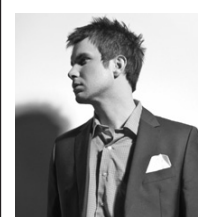
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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Paul Connor & Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack
Homestead: Marc Apostolides

Milford
Clark's Tavern: Brad Byrd
Pasta Loft: Small Town Stranded

Nashua
Fody's: Chad Lamarsh
Old Amsterdam: Jimmy D

Newmarket
Stone Church: Crushed Out

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub: Cirkestra

Plaistow
Sad Cafe: Third Stone Odyssey

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Qwill and the Soul Review Project
Dolphin Striker: Money Power Cake
Gas Light Co.: Connption Fits
Press Room: Tan Vampires, Milkman's Union
Red Door: Mike Swells

Salem
Jocelyn's Lounge: Kevin Elliott

Seabrook:
Chop Shop Pub: 80 MPH

NITE CONCERTS

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com	Leddy Center 38c Ladd's Lane, Epping, 679-2781, leddycenter.org	934-1901, themiddlenh.org	335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com
The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene, 352-2033, thecolonial.org	Lowell Boarding House Park 40 French St., Lowell, Mass., www.lowellsummermusic.org	The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, the-musichall.org	Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry, 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com
Dana Humanities Center at Saint Anselm College 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester, 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana	Lowell Memorial Auditorium East Merrimack Street, Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com	The Old Meeting House , 1 New Boston Road, Francetown	Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry, 437-5100, tupelohall.com
The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com	East Merrimack Street , Lowell, Mass., 978-454-2299, lowellauditorium.com	Palace Theatre , 80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org	Verizon Wireless Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester, 644-5000, www.verizon-wirelessarena.com
Hampton Beach Casino Ballroom 169 Ocean Blvd., Hampton Beach, 929-4100, casinoballroom.com	Meadowbrook U.S. Cellular Pavilion 72 Meadowbrook Lane, Gilford, 293-4700, meadowbrook.net	Prescott Park Arts Festival 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth, www.prescottpark.org, 436-2848	Whittemore Center Arena, UNH 128 Main St., Durham, 862-4000, www.whitt-center.com
	The Middle Arts & Entertainment Center 316 Central St., Franklin,	Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester,	

- **The BoDeans** Thurs., Oct. 4, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **David Swanson and David Rovics** Fri., Oct. 5, at 5:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **Christopher Cross** Fri., Oct. 5, at 7:30 p.m., Palace
- **Tiesto** Fri., Oct. 5, at 7:30 p.m., Whittemore Center Arena
- **Campbell Family Southern Gospel Music** Sat., Oct. 6, at 7:30 p.m., Franklin Opera House
- **Get the Led Out** Sat., Oct. 6, at 8 p.m., Colonial Theatre
- **Over the Rhine** Sat., Oct. 6, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Dueling Pianos** Sat., Oct. 6, at 8 p.m., Boynton's Taproom
- **Heart** Sun., Oct. 7, at 7 p.m., Meadowbrook
- **Badfish: A Tribute to Sublime** Thurs., Oct. 11, at 7:30 p.m., Flying Monkey
- **California Guitar Trio & Montreal Guitar Trio** Thurs., Oct. 11, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **The Kruger Brothers** Thurs., Oct. 11, at 7 p.m., Prescott Park
- **United States Marine Band** Fri., Oct. 12, at 7:30 p.m., Cap Center
- **Renaissance** Fri., Oct. 12, at 8 p.m., Tupelo
- **Bruce in the U.S.A.** Fri., Oct. 12, at 7:30 p.m., Palace
- **Joss Stone** Fri., Oct. 12, at 8

HEART



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Sunday, Oct. 7
Concord
Hermano's: Paul Lovely

Dover
Brick House: Genuine Rust, Kryssy Kocktail, On the Job, Taxi Driver, The Uprisers, The Usual Suspects

Hampton
Ron's Landing: The Read/Allan Duo

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: Jen Oldam

Newmarket
Stone Church: Antje Duvkot

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The Boston comic will bring his signature deadpan delivery to Concord with his performance Saturday, Oct. 6, at 8 p.m., at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord). Tickets range from \$29.50 to \$50. Call 225-1111 or visit www.ccanh.com.

PHILIP HAMILTON



The versatile voice of Philip Hamilton explores blues, jazz and world music. Hamilton will perform on Friday, Oct. 5, at 8 p.m. at Studio 99 (17 Factory St., Nashua). Tickets are \$10 for this general admission show and are available at the door. Call 562-5179 or visit www.studio99nashua.com.

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Elijah Clark
Red Door: Green Lion Crew

Seabrook
Chop Shop Pub: Matt Murray
& Pete

Monday, Oct. 8
Concord
Hermano's: Tom Wildman &
Jock Irvine

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: MB Pad-
field

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Nashua
Fody's: Matt Jackson

Newmarket
Stone Church: Serenade II
Darkness

Portsmouth
Red Door: Daniel Paul O'Brien,
Heather Maloney

Tuesday, Oct. 9
Concord
Hermano's: Glenn Paladino

Dover
Brick House: Billy Raygun, Off
With Their Heads, The Young
Leaves

Londonderry
Whippersnappers: VJ Mark

Manchester
Fratello's: Brian Gray
Strangebrew: Peter Parcek

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack
Homestead: MB Padfield

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: David Gerard

Wednesday, Oct. 10
Concord
Hermano's: Glenn Paladino

Manchester
Fratello's: Paul Luff
Jokers: Kim Riley
Strangebrew: Lisa Marie

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Paul Warnick

Milford
J's Tavern: Lisa Guyer

Portsmouth
Press Room: Jerry Tillett
Red Door: Red on Red, Eva-
ready

COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, Oct. 4
Portsmouth
Music Hall: Bob
Newhart

Friday, Oct. 5
Keene
Colonial Theatre: Ste-
ven Wright

Londonderry
Tupelo: Mike McDon-
ald, Ryan Gartley,
Chris D

Saturday, Oct. 6
Concord
Cap Center: Steven
Wright

Rochester
Rochester Opera
House: Super Secret
Project

Sunday, Oct. 7
Manchester
Palace: Jimmy Tingle
for President

Saturday, Oct. 13
Portsmouth
Pearl: Jim Lauletta &
Mike Prior

Thursday, Oct. 18
Plymouth
Flying Monkey: Bob
Marley

Saturday, Oct. 20
Manchester
Palace: Juston McK-
inney

Thursday, Oct. 25
Concord
Cap Center: Ron
White

Saturday, Oct. 27
Portsmouth
Music Hall: Berna-
dette Pauley & Al
Ducharme

Tuesday, Oct. 30
Keene
Colonial Theatre: Red
Green

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SIGNS OF LIFE

All quotes are from *I Don't Mean to be Rude, But...*, by Simon Cowell, born Oct. 7, 1959.

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) 'What do you think, darling?' she asked.... 'Does Mummy look pretty?' I looked up at her and stared at the furry hat. 'Mum,' I said, 'you look like a poodle.' Seek honest feedback.

Scorpio (Oct 23 – Nov 21) The world I was born into was very different than the world is now: We had no McDonald's, no color television, and luckily no Paula Abdul. Times do change.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 – Dec 21) Today, neither my brother nor Bob Dylan would get through a single audition on American Idol—at least as long as I remain one of the judges. One of them can't sing and the other's too earnest and boring. Know yourself.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan 19) ...we broke up during the party....The next day, I called her up and uttered what has to be the most pitiful line in the history of romance: 'Can I have my crash helmet back?' No, you cannot. And don't grovel.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) I think I lasted two days there before being asked to leave—I was the worst waiter in the world. It was clear that waiting tables wasn't the career for me. But what was? Don't worry, you'll figure it out.

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) Despite such phenomenal success, I have to admit to making a few mistakes along the way. My biggest regret was not signing the Spice Girls. We all have regrets. Put the past behind you.

Aries (March 21 – April 19) I am always being asked, 'What would you say to today's music superstars if they showed up at an American Idol audition?' Hmm. Now that would be interesting. Bob Dylan: 'Too ugly, too boring, too whiny, and too serious.' ... Jon Bon Jovi: 'No. Don't like your hair.' ... Elton John: 'Yes, if you lose a few pounds.' ... 'N Sync: 'No, no, no, no, and the one with the curly hair—yes.' Take a second look at the one with the curly hair.

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) Today, kids are lazier than ever and more entitled. Often we have people who come in to see us in the auditions, people with good enough singing voices, and when we ask them if they have taken any lessons, they say no proudly. They shouldn't be proud. ... Many people start with talent, but you've got to train to hone your talent. Practice, practice, practice.

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) Believe in yourself the second you leave the house. Self-possession isn't something you can turn on seconds before you walk into the audition room. ... If you try to cobble it together in the waiting room, you'll fail. Think ahead.

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) Predictions for Today's Top Celebrity Couples: Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston: True love. Ashton Kutcher and Demi Moore: Won't last a year. ... David Beckham and Victoria Beckham: True love. Justin Timberlake and Cameron Diaz: Very dubious. Guy Ritchie and Madonna: True love. You never can tell.

Leo (July 23 – Aug 22) You might think delivering mail is easy. It's not, particularly when you are struggling across Charing Cross Road pushing a mail trolley with one of the wheels about to come off. You should tighten up a wobbly wheel.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) If Madonna wasn't Madonna and you found her in the Holiday Inn in Detroit singing 'Evergreen,' you wouldn't necessarily think of her as a woman who could be the biggest recording artist in the world. Consider the context.

NITE SUDOKU
Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

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	6						7	
			6		3			8
5								9
7			1		4			
	2						6	
	8	3		6	5	9	1	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/04

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9/27

8	2	6	1	7	3	5	4	9
3	7	5	9	2	4	6	8	1
9	4	1	6	8	5	7	2	3
2	6	3	4	5	7	9	1	8
5	1	9	8	3	6	2	7	4
4	8	7	2	9	1	3	6	5
1	3	8	7	6	9	4	5	2
6	9	2	5	4	8	1	3	7
7	5	4	3	1	2	8	9	6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 9/27

“Adjusted to Fit Your Screen” — what the flip is going on?

Across

- 1 Big letters, for short (and what your answers must be written in to understand the theme)
- 5 Hiking path
- 10 “Which came first?” choice
- 13 Clapton or Cartman
- 14 “The Freshmaker” candy
- 16 Stuff to fix a squeaky hinge
- 17 Aligned correctly
- 19 Pompous attribute
- 20 Stun gun relative
- 21 Jewel
- 22 Amy Winehouse hit
- 24 Complainer’s sounds
- 26 1980s hairstyle that may have involved a kit
- 27 Donut shop quantities

- 30 Cop show with the line “Just the facts, ma’am”
- 33 Cupid’s Greek counterpart
- 34 Wire-___ (like some terriers’ coats)
- 37 Rowboat
- 38 Send a document over phone lines
- 39 Devices that, when turned, adjust themselves (just like the theme answers)
- 40 Greek vowel
- 41 Biblical verb suffix
- 42 Audrey Tautou’s quirky title role of 2001
- 43 Stay away from
- 44 Changed an area of town from residential to commercial, e.g.
- 46 They’re collected in passports
- 48 Coffee dispensers

9/27

T	R	A	C	T	O	R	P	U	L	L	K	E	A
H	O	N	E	Y	B	O	O	B	O	O	A	N	D
E	N	G	L	I	S	H	R	O	S	E	Z	O	D
I	C	E	I	N		A	T	S	T	A	K	E	
D	O	R	A	G	S	I	T	I	S	S	A	I	D
G	E	R	O	N	I	M	O	A	R	T	G	U	M
A	L	A	R		P	I	N	E	D		S	O	N
B	I	T	M	A	P		S	T	A	T	E	P	E
S	H	E	R	I	D	A	N		E	N	E	S	C
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A	N	I		I	N	T	E	L	I	N	S	I	D
R	O	N		S	T	O	R	E	K	E	E	P	E
F	I	G											

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51	52					53			54		55	56	57
58				59	60				61				
62				63							64		
65					66						67		

Down

- 54 Walkway on an airplane
- 58 Bullfighting cheer
- 59 Neil Armstrong went on one
- 62 Homer’s outburst
- 63 It’s tossed after a wedding
- 64 Charity benefit, say
- 65 View
- 66 Doesn’t eat for a while
- 67 Bridge’s length

Down

- 1 Like some checks: abbr.
- 2 Opera solo
- 3 Sty dwellers
- 4 Crafty plans
- 5 Symbols after brand names
- 6 Rule over a kingdom
- 7 South American mountain range
- 8 Checklist component
- 9 Rawls of R&B
- 10 “Land sakes alive that’s awesome!”
- 11 Prefix for byte meaning “one billion”
- 12 Amorphous clump
- 15 Jam, margarine

- and cream cheese
- 18 Sci-fi film set inside a computer
- 23 Exercise machine unit
- 25 Makes embarrassed
- 26 Class warmup before a big exam
- 27 Postpone
- 28 Make big speeches
- 29 Do the “I am not a crook” thing with the double V-signs, for example?
- 30 Three, in Germany
- 31 Completely devour
- 32 ___ fatty acids
- 35 Troy’s friend on “Community”
- 36 Under the weather
- 39 ___ salon
- 43 Well-known quotations
- 45 “Are you a man ___ mouse?”
- 47 Warm up after being in the freezer
- 49 Amounts on a bill
- 50 Liability counterpart
- 51 Physiques, casually
- 52 Lotion ingredient
- 53 Actress Sorvino
- 55 Dove or Ivory
- 56 Hit for the Kinks
- 57 Actor McGregor
- 60 Clumsy sort
- 61 Org. that provides W-2 forms

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPHERD

Men Want to Be Pretty, Too

For some reason, South Korea (with about one-sixth the men that America has) is the world's largest consumer of male cosmetics, with its leading company approaching \$1 billion a year in sales. According to a September Bloomberg Business Week dispatch, South Korean males became fascinated with the country's 2002 World Cup soccer team's "flower men," who had smooth, flawless skin, and the craze took off from there. Said a male college student, "Having a clean, neat face makes you look sophisticated and creates an image that you can handle yourself well." Makeup routines include drawing "thicker, bolder" eyebrows and, of course, expert application of lipstick. Said one admiring woman, "I feel like I have more to talk about with guys who use makeup."

Government in Action!

• **Cliche Come to Life:** In an August report, the inspector general of the Department of Veterans Affairs warned that the regional office building in Winston-Salem, N.C., was in danger of collapsing because there were too many claims files stacked on the sixth floor. "We noticed floors bowing under the excess weight to the extent that the tops of file cabinets were noticeably unlevel throughout the storage area." The report also warned of the potential of files falling on, and injuring, employees. For the short term, the agency relocated all the folders (estimated: 37,000) on the sixth floor to offices on the fifth, seventh and eighth floors.

• **For years,** U.S. senators Ron Wyden and Mark Udall (of the Select Committee on Intelligence) have been asking the director of National Intelligence to disclose how often the government might be "overcollecting" information on U.S. citizens by too enthusiastically applying the Patriot Act, but the director's office has maintained that such information, whether or not it reveals wrongdoing, is classified. In July, the office finally declassified one fact that it said the senators were free to use: that the government had "on at least one occasion" overcollected information in violation of constitutional protections — but that's all. The number of times, and all other details, remain classified.

• **In August,** a Michigan government watchdog group learned, in a Freedom of Information Act request, that the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department still to this day retains one job classification for a horseshoer. (The department owns no horseshoes.) Over the years, the position has become a patronage slot paying about \$57,000 a year in salary and benefits, sometimes requiring the "horseshoer" to do "blacksmith" work such as metal repair. (Because of severe budget cuts, the city employees' union fights to retain every job, no matter its title.)

• **Are We Safe?** In August, the former

director of Homeland Security's office in charge of shoring up the nation's chemical plants against terrorist attacks told CBS News that, five years after Homeland Security started the chemical program, "90 percent" of the 5,000 most vulnerable plants have still not even been inspected. The official, Todd Keil, said that when he left the job in February, \$480 million had been spent, but that no plant had a "site security plan" and that management of the program was "a catastrophic failure." (A July Government Accountability Office report confirmed that 4,400 chemical plants had not been properly inspected.)

Overachievers

(1) KETV (Omaha, Neb.) reported in September that local mother Andrea Kirby had decided to give away her stored-up breast milk to a family in greater need. She had amassed a freezer-full of 44 gallons for her now-8-month-old child. (2) How Hard Could Medical School Be? Tokyo police arrested Miyabi Kuroki, 43, in September, and charged him with forging a medical license in 2009 and subsequently treating patients at a Tokyo hospital, providing, among other things, examinations and electrocardiogram counseling. Hospital officials estimate he "treated" 2,300 patients before being caught.

Great Art!

• Without the work of scientists Gregory Gage and Tim Marzullo, we might never know the effect of playing a loud hip-hop song to create vibrations that make squids' pigmented cells change colors. The men's Backyard Brains setup involved a 1993

Cypress Hill hit ("Insane in the Brain"), an iPod nano, and a "suction electrode" to jar a Longfin Inshore's muscles to reveal the squid's "chromatophores" that are either red, brown or yellow. A Time magazine writer gave her take on the work's reason for being: "Because really, you know, why not?"

• Canadian artist Taras Polataiko's two-week-long live re-creation of "Sleeping Beauty" was featured through early September at Ukraine's National Art Museum in Kiev, with an unexpected outcome. Five women had been chosen to fall asleep daily and, by signed contract, to agree to marry the first man who awakened them with a single kiss (thus to witness "the birth of love," according to Polataiko). Only one awoke during the exhibit, but since that payoff kiss was applied by a female gallery-goer, the contract could not be fulfilled in that Ukraine forbids same-sex marriage.

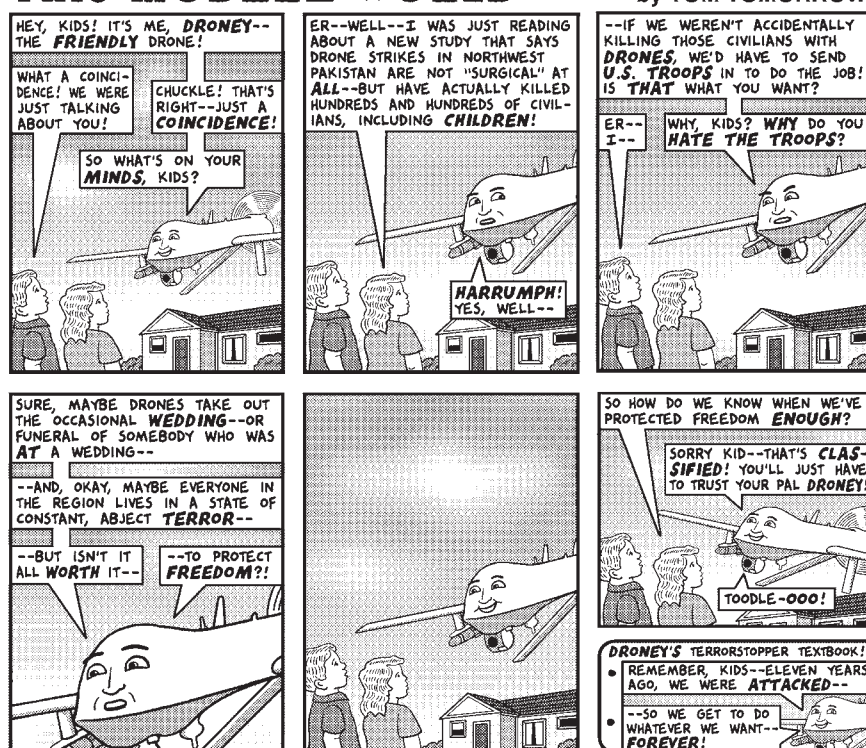
The Litigious Society

• An unnamed passenger on the Russian rail company Krasprigorod won a lawsuit in September for his 2010 experience of being stuck in a crowded train station for two hours and having to endure "moral suffering" from exposure to other passengers cussing. The Russian news agency RIA Novosti reported that the lawsuit (which also noted physical injuries including having his feet stepped on) originally asked the equivalent of \$1,550 but that the court in Krasnoyarsk awarded much less.

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by TOM TOMORROW



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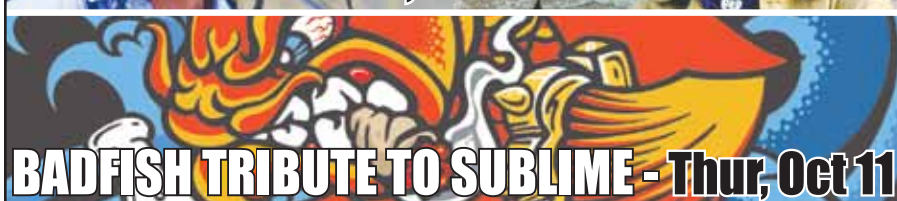
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Fri, Nov 9



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Sat, Oct 20



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Fri, Nov 2



NATALIE MACMASTER
Fri, Nov 30



PETER YARROW
Sat, Nov 3
OF PETER, PAUL & MARY



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